

THE TIMES

The politics of moderation: Sir Keith Joseph, p 16

Dr Owen Foreign Secretary at 38: Mrs Hart returns to Cabinet

Dr Owen, who deputized for Mr Crosland during his absence, becomes Foreign Secretary in the Government reshuffle caused by Mr Crosland's death. At 38, Dr Owen is the youngest man to hold the office since Sir Anthony Eden (Lord Avon). Mr Healey is to stay as Chancellor and joined in the Cabinet by Mr Joel Barnett, Chief

Secretary to the Treasury, who will have responsibility for all public spending matters. Mrs Judith Hart returns to the Cabinet as Minister of State for Overseas Development. She was the minister in the Wilson Administration. Mr Frank Judd moves from that post to become Minister of State at the Foreign Office.



Dr Owen: New Foreign Secretary. Mrs Hart: Return to Overseas Development. Mr Healey: Continues as Chancellor. Mr Barnett: Gets a place in Cabinet. Mr Judd: Foreign Office promotion.

Mr Barnett in Cabinet with spending responsibility

Woodward Owen became the Foreign Secretary late Anthony Eden (Lord Avon) was in 1958 when the then announced late the successor to Mr. rosland, or Plymouth, Devon- ven, a medical prac- came Minister of the Foreign Office, al responsibility for affairs. In October, an ardent European pointment is a sign laghan's recognition portance of Euro- ring the residue of nths during which Kingdom will com- presidency of the Ministers of the EEC. does not mean that in regards Dr Owen, as a temporary It is an appointment as any other in Irrespective of the Dr Owen thereby youngest Cabinet the top rank of a erment since Sir on was appointed

President of the Board of Trade by Clement Attlee. Dr Owen has had almost as much time as Mr Crosland to familiarize himself with European affairs at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, as number two, and beyond that he brings far more fervent Europeanism to his new duties. In the event Mr Callaghan decided to be bold. He has chosen an extremely young man for one of the key posts in the Cabinet, and he will rank in fifth place in the Cabinet list, preceded only by the Prime Minister, the Lord President of the Council (Mr Foot), the Lord Chancellor (Lord Elwyn-Jones), and the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr Healey). He takes precedence over Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, who is now sixth in Cabinet rankings. Clearly Mr Healey now has to wait a long time before he escapes from the dilemmas of the Treasury and finds his natural home at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. But Mr Callaghan had little or no choice, Mr Healey is in the middle of preparing a crucial Budget for March 29 and nego-

The details, with ages and salaries, are as follows:

Foreign Secretary	Dr David Owen (38)	£13,000
Chief Secretary to the Treasury	Mr Joel Barnett (53)	£13,000
Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs	Mr Frank Judd (41)	£9,500
Minister of State for Overseas Development	Mrs Judith Hart (52)	£9,500

tiating a new bargain with the TUC for a third year of pay policy. Mr Callaghan has, therefore, been obliged to leave Mr Healey where he is. But he has made a change in the Treasury team and thereby increased the Cabinet from 23 members to 24. Mr Joel Barnett, the Chief Secretary, Treasury, who is responsible for public expenditure, has been promoted to Cabinet rank, and thereby Mr Healey has essentially been left with the cardinal tasks of the Budget and pay policy. Mr Callaghan, who before he became Prime Minister was often exceedingly cautious in consulting party and outside opinion, has undoubtedly set

lished and popular in EEC circles, and will not be unknown or unloved when he takes the chair at the EEC Council of Ministers up to the end of June. Mr Callaghan's remaining appointments are fairly orthodox. Mr Frank Judd, who becomes Minister of State and number two at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has an almost family commitment to foreign affairs. He has been a member of the Labour delegation to the principal European organisations, and has a well deserved reputation for Commonwealth concern. Mrs Hart, who returns to Overseas Development as Minister of State, succeeding Mr Judd, has presumably been recalled by Mr Callaghan because of her wide knowledge of national executive committee of the Labour Party and in Labour politics generally. In continuing the minimum of changes within the Cabinet Mr Callaghan must partly have had in mind the fact that the national executive committee of the Labour Party and in Labour politics generally. The announcement of the changes made last night were reported to the Queen, for approval.

refused free crests charge

Tender for Reporters. The Royal Signals, with communicating formation to Crispin d 31, and Duncan ed 24, both journa- address in Bristol on, last Friday, estday's hearing, enham magistrates, n, at which report- quare were lifted, pt Harold Nichols, police investigation, rmation was of "a classified nature", men were charged ion two of the reit Act, 1911. The magis- Mr Silkin, QC the neral, had not yet ession for a prose- ad he opposed bail e men because the e very serious. The communicated by the as highly classified umber of inquiries ade. He said that ere released they at the offence. Mr Campbell, Mr id the maximum er the Act was two ce officer agreed Campbell had no o anything with the because he was asked if Mr Camp- interfere with in- not stand trial. Mr d: "My impression and remarks made e me feel certain ger of a reputation uce." nted out to him that ould keep the but aid he could not o police operations. am Nash, for the defendants, asked s if searches at the r Aubrey, Mr Berry d on page 2, col 1

PLO issue blocks path to Middle East talks

No progress has been made on the key issue of Palestinian representation at a Middle East peace conference, Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, acknowledged this yesterday at the end of his six-nation tour of the region. Both Israelis and Arabs were willing to return to Geneva if the status

Work at Leyland may stop in two days

By R. W. Shakespeare. As British Leyland plants reopened yesterday after the weekend it became clear that the company has little hope of avoiding a progressive shutdown of all of its car assembly plants and final operations because of the toolroom workers' dispute. This would make more than 30,000 workers idle, add huge production losses to those which have already been running at more than £12m a day over the past two weeks, and further add to the Government's financial burden. The future strength of Leyland is to be guaranteed and its development and reorganization programme carried out. Equally worrying for the Government is the fact that the present trouble in Leyland represents what could well be the first of many militant demonstrations in various industrial sectors for a much more flexible wage strategy, allowing for substantial free collective bargaining and restoration of the "rate for the job" principle in terms of skilled differences.

Industrial output on higher trend

Provisional Government figures show that the economy strengthened in the fourth quarter of last year, although the overall rise in national output between 1975 and 1976 was only 1 per cent. Industrial production rose in the fourth quarter by more than 5 per cent compared with the annual rate of expansion of 4 per cent for the whole economy. Page 19

Argentina 'reign of torture'

Details of torture allegedly used by Argentine police have been given in Geneva by the Argentine Commission for Human Rights. It claims that in 11 months of military rule, 2,300 people have been killed and another 20,000 have "disappeared". Page 6

Heath blame for his successors

Mr Edward Heath has criticized Sir Harold Wilson and Mr Callaghan for dropping the six-monthly reviews of general leading articles. All-party convention on devolution: British Leyland. Features, pages 12 and 16. Ronzani and says new paint and plaster cannot stop devolution being dull. Pearce Wright on the changing desert. Shopping in Croydon. Philippa Toomey: Katie Stewart's cookery. Arts, page 13. Andy Devine: Sir Brian Mount- gain; the Right Rev Christopher Storrs.

Derby County want Clough

Derby County want Brian Clough to return to them as manager, and negotiations have begun. Clough, now manager of Nottingham Forest, left Derby four years ago after a disagreement with the club's directors. Page 11

Fittleton officer court martialled

The commanding officer of the minesweeper Fittleton, which crashed and sank with the loss of 12 lives in the North Sea last September, faced a court martial at Portsmouth. Lieutenant-Commander Peter Paget denied four charges. Page 3

Bread strike: The Bakers' Union is calling 17,000 workers out on strike from Sunday in support of a pay demand

Italy: Escaped convict surrenders to police after holding family of five at gunpoint for 16 hours. Washington: The United States defence budget will be cut by \$2,700m next year. Great Yarmouth: A two-page Special Report on the town's changing economy. 14, 15

Smith reed

Smith, aged 60, a key ne Poulson affair, is sed from prison after 1. He was jailed at n Court in April, six years for con- corruption. His release is said to sed him, his family

TUC backs Post Office union's court action over ban on South African mail

By Paul Routledge. TUC leaders decided yesterday to back the Union of Post Office Workers in an appeal to the House of Lords over what the unions see as a curtailment of the right to strike. The case arises from the decision of the Court of Appeal to grant an interim injunction to an individual, Mr John Gouriet, of the National Association for Freedom, prohibiting postal workers from halting mail and telecommunication links with South Africa. The decision of the TUC Finance and General Purposes Committee (often known as its "inner cabinet") yesterday was to back the union in principle, but it is almost certain that TUC funds will be forthcoming to finance a legal action that the unions regard as a fundamental defence of their right to strike. The Post Office workers are

Churchmen accused by President Amin of 'campaign of lies'

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Feb 21. President Amin of Uganda reacted angrily today to the storm of criticism that has followed the death of Dr Janani Lumum, the Anglican Archbishop of Uganda and two Cabinet ministers. In a telegram to the Organization of African Unity he accused Canon Burgess Carr, general secretary of the All-Africa Conference of Churches, of mounting a campaign of lies and "Zionist propaganda" against his country. Canon Carr, who last week said the Archbishop's death was "murder by the Ugandan security forces", was described by President Amin today as a "microphone for Zionism" and "in the same category as Vorster and Smith". [A Reuters message from Nairobi, quoting Uganda Radio, said President Amin included the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, in his retort. Both the Primates of the Anglican Church and Canon Carr were involved in the sinister plan to cause chaos in Uganda", the Ugandan leader said. "That is why they were disappointed when their plan failed and are at present at the centre of the anti-Uganda propaganda." Uganda was calm, the telegram to the OAU said. Any country was welcome to send a delegation to see for themselves the situation there. Delegates attending this week's meetings of the ministerial council of the African, Caribbean and Pacific states in Kampala would be able to see how calm conditions were. But a "dangerous situation" had arisen when a group of desperate men entered the country recently with arms to carry out widespread killings. Church sources here said reports that two Anglican bishops in Uganda had been killed were not true. Newspaper reports had suggested that the Right Rev Benson Ogwai, Bishop of northern Uganda, and the Right Rev Yona Okot, Bishop of Bukedi, eastern Uganda, were dead. There was no ground for such reports, the sources said. Coggan said: President Amin should not be allowed to attend the Queen's jubilee celebrations in June, Dr Coggan said yesterday. "My personal feelings are that he should not be allowed in."

Maths for millions in new basic tests

By Philip Howard. Five people have the following weekly wages: £20, £25, £25, £35, £35. What is the average wage? Express the smallest wage as a fraction of the largest. That is not a nice calculation about differentials or phase three of the income policy, but a specimen question that the Institute of Mathematics thinks that most people in this country ought to be able to answer without difficulty by the time they are 15. Influential voices, including that of the Prime Minister at Oxford, have lately been suggesting that schoolchildren's grasp of basic skills has been deteriorating and needs to be reinforced. Few Britons have ever spoken mathematics like a native. But there is a suspicion abroad that too many recent school-leavers cannot count to 28 each month without getting into trouble. Accordingly the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications is urging the establishment of a national test of basic mathematical skills of schoolchildren. There has been discussion of whether there should be a variety of tests for different ages and ability ranges. In the institute's view a single test of basic skills should be taken by all pupils at the end of their penultimate year of compulsory schooling, although it does not rule out the possibility of assessment at earlier stages. A committee of teachers under the chairmanship of Mr B. T. Bellis, Headmaster of the Leys School, Cambridge, has devised a selection of specimen questions. They are intended as an indication of the mathematical skills that most of the population should have mastered before leaving school, and not as a sample test paper. The institute is making no proposal yet about the style of the examination, for example, whether or not it should be a "multi-choice" paper designed to be marked by computer. The 28 sample questions involve addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, and averages, and simple problems to exercise these different branches of arithmetic. The Institute of Mathematics expects most pupils to get most of them right, many of them taking three quarters of an hour, and bright, numerate children about a quarter of an hour to answer the questions. Reassure of The Times of a competitive or massochistic bent are today given the opportunity to test themselves against what the Institute of Mathematics considers ought to be an acceptable national standard of basic skills in school mathematics. Do not write upon both sides of the paper at once. Do not dip your pencil in the marmalade. Do not spoil the crossword. You have 15 minutes starting from now. Turn to page 4.

MPs seek ban on visit by Ugandan leader

By Hugh Noyes Westminster. The Government is under increasing pressure to prevent President Amin of Uganda from attending the Commonwealth Conference in June. From both sides of the Commons, MPs are demanding a statement on the Government's reported attitude that it is powerless to act. Yesterday there were signs that an international boycott of Uganda may be in prospect. Mr Judd, Minister for Overseas Development, told the Commons that the Government was "no question" of any EEC ministers attending the Lomé Convention which opens in Kampala tomorrow. From the Conservative front bench, Mr Peter Tapscott (Hornsea) urged a review of Commonwealth aid to Uganda under the Lomé Convention. Mr Judd replied that Community aid was a matter for the EEC countries as a whole, but this would be kept under close review with Britain's partners. Behind the protests is the deep concern of MPs that if President Amin should arrive in Britain in advance of the Commonwealth Conference, protocol might require him to be invited by Buckingham Palace to the silver jubilee thanksgiving service in St Pauls Cathedral on June 7, the day before the conference opens. The service will be attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. In view of the mysterious death and rapid burial of the Anglican Archbishop of Uganda, Dr Janani Lumum, many MPs consider that the presence of the Ugandan leader in the cathedral would be a grave affront and would create a national outcry. The Government's embarrassment was clear last week when Mr Greville Janner (Labour, Leicester, West) asked Mr Foot, Leader of the House, if he could give a positive assurance that President Amin would not be allowed into the country. Yesterday, two motions appeared on the order paper. One, in the names of a number of Tory MPs, declared that the House would not welcome the appearance of President Amin at the Commonwealth Conference. Another, under the heading of "Ugandan Atrocities" in the name of Mr Geoffrey Finsberg (Conservative, Camden, Hampstead) urged that President Amin should be declared an undesirable immigrant and not admitted to the United Kingdom. It called on the Organization of African Unity to expel Uganda immediately. Parliamentary report, page 8

Paris flood alert

Paris, Feb 21.—All traffic on the Seine was halted today as it rose almost to overflow level. In north-western France, rain-swollen rivers have left two dead and another two missing.—AP.

Peace workers welcome New Zealand offer

Mrs Betty Williams, a founder of the Northern Ireland peace movement, said in Belfast yesterday that she was delighted with a decision by Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, to admit former Ulster detainees to New Zealand as immigrants. "This will give people a chance to start a new life away from the violence", she said. "Of course, we shall not be sending known criminals or wanted people, but people who genuinely wish to make a new start and have paid their debt to society." The decision was a result of the visit to New Zealand of Miss Mairead Corrigan, one of the movement's leaders. Mrs Thatcher in Belfast, page 2

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Arts	13	Law Report	11	TV & Radio	29
Ridge	18	Letters	17, 20	Theatres, etc	12, 13
Business	19-26	Obituary	18	25 Years Ago	18
Church	18	Parliament	18	Universities	8
Court	18	Sale Room	18	Weather	2
Crossword	30	Science	18	Wills	18

HOME NEWS

Government criticized over arrests under secrets Act

By Stewart Tandler

Home Affairs Reporter

The National Council for Civil Liberties yesterday criticized the arrests of two journalists under the Official Secrets Act. It accused the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary of actions that "will disgrace this Government at home and abroad."

Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the council, said Mr. Rees told the Commons last November that "mere possession or receipt of official information should not constitute a crime." She said the Attorney General would take into account government plans to change the Act when considering proceedings.

Miss Hewitt said: "The Prime Minister, who is responsible for national security, must carry the blame for an action that along with Mr. Rees's deportation of Agee and Rosenblatt, will disgrace this Government at home and abroad."

Although the Labour Party's manifesto promised more open government, Mr. Callaghan and Mr. Rees have made it clear: "that the Labour Government will harass and intimidate any journalist who attempts to investigate matters which the Government wants kept secret."

Last November Mr. Rees told the Commons of plans to change section two of the

Official Secrets Act, 1911, because of its "catch all" nature and the difficulties of enforcement and interpretation. The proposals would narrow the field of information covered under a new Act.

Asked in the Commons in November about the receipt of information, with which the two journalists are charged, Mr. Rees said: "The Government accepts that the mere receipt of official information should no longer be an offence."

Mr. Rees also said: "Although the operation of the Act is a matter for the Attorney General it will no doubt be open to the Attorney General to take into account the Government's intention to introduce legislation on the lines I have indicated in considering whether to bring proceedings under section two."

The arrests have come in the middle of controversy over the Government's deportation of Mr. Philip Agee and Mr. Mark Rosenblatt. Mr. Agee is a staff writer for Time Out magazine and a member of the defence committee supporting the two men.

Mr. Campbell is a freelance journalist specializing in scientific matters. He gave evidence on behalf of Mr. Rosenblatt, who worked for the Home Office advisory committee last month considering the deportation cases.

Attorney General has yet to authorize prosecution

Continued from page 1

and his wife were thorough, and was told they should have been. The three men were arrested last Friday and Mr. Berry was interviewed on Saturday evening for 45 minutes. Mr. Berry was questioned on Sunday afternoon for 25 minutes and Mr. Campbell was questioned for 10 minutes on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Nash said: "Mr. Berry served in Cyprus and has not been in the Army for the past seven years and whatever he knew was that old." The police officer said it was still classified.

In his submission to the bench Mr. Simons said it was official Labour Party policy to change the Act. Section two of the Act could be used very regularly but rarely was it used. "Whenever a government service gives information to the press it is an offence. Every time a journalist goes to a briefing from a minister he is receiving classified information."

Mr. Simons told the bench that the last case under section two of the Act had occurred a

year to 18 months ago. Mr. Simons said: "A young journalist was arrested with Ministry of Defence documents. He spent some time in custody and subsequently the Attorney General refused to give his flat for prosecution."

Mr. Nash told the bench that Mr. Berry had left the Army with the rank of lance-corporal. He said the charges seemed very dramatic but far all anyone knew the price of brassards might be on the list of classified information.

The magistrates retired for more than 20 minutes and came back to announce that they would not give bail. There were packed court rooms.

Mr. Samuel Kershner, chairman of the bench, told Mr. Nicholls that the three would be remanded for a week, when "we shall expect to have full chapter and verse as to whether the further detention will be made. Otherwise the bench will take a different view."

Plans are being made for an appearance before a High Court judge in chambers to two of the three men on bail.

Former dancer had drug in her leotards

Use Radascic, a former dancer from Austria, had cocaine packed in plastic bags and stitched to the inside of her leotards when she travelled to Britain, Mr. Ian Davies, for the prosecution, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

There was more of the drug hidden inside balls of wool in a work basket she carried.

Norman Baines, aged 26, a pop group manager, also had cocaine concealed in his leotards, it was added.

Miss Radascic, aged 33, Mr. Baines, of Trevanion Road, Kensington, and Bryn Davies, aged 36, of Mowell Hill, London, admitted smuggling cocaine into England.

Judge Gillis, CC, jailed Miss Radascic for two years and recommended her deportation. Mr. Baines was jailed for four years and Mr. Davies for five years.

New version of Silver Shadow

Rolls-Royce today announces a new version of its principal model, the Silver Shadow, with changes to improve handling and fuel consumption. The price of the car goes up by more than £3,000 to £22,800.

New carburetors and other engine modifications have produced an improvement in cruising speeds, and rack-and-pinion steering has been fitted for the first time.

Camp-site strike made official

A strike by two hundred building workers at Pontin's Tower Beach holiday camp at Clwyd, was made official yesterday by the regional committee of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, in Manchester.

The strike began when the men alleged that a Pontin subsidiary wished to replace some of them with cheaper labour.

Welsh warning of big job losses

Unemployment in Wales may reach 100,000, Plaid Cymru said in a policy document yesterday.

The party maintained that the decision to end the regional employment premium and review the temporary employment subsidy without an alternative economic plan would send unemployment above 10 per cent in Wales.

Anti-devolution MPs defy party

By Trevor Fishlock

and Ronald Faux

A campaign to oppose devolution was started yesterday by a group of Labour Party members in South Wales, in defiance of the Welsh Labour Party's policy. It has the support of five Welsh Labour MPs.

Under the title of Vote No, the campaign will run counter to the joint Labour Party and Wales TUC pro-devolution campaign. The MPs supporting the campaign are Mr. Leo Abse (Pontypool), Mr. Neil Kinnock (Bedwellty), Mr. Alfred Evans (Caerphilly), Mr. Ian Evans (Aberdare) and Mr. Donald Anderson (Swansea East). All are long standing opponents of devolution.

Mr. Emrys Jones, secretary of the Welsh Labour Party, said yesterday that he was disappointed that the campaign had been started. "This is bad for the party for its future and its credibility," he said.

"We have been working for devolution for more than eleven years and decisions on it have been taken by the full party at our annual conferences. This anti-devolution campaign puts out of decisions taken by the full party."

But the campaign was welcomed by the Welsh Conservative Party. A statement said the five MPs would "play an important part in an overall campaign to prevent the setting up of this unwanted assembly."

Scotland will be denied use of the National Land Fund to buy historic buildings if the devolution Bill is not amended, according to a working party of the National Trust for Scotland, which is investigating the Bill's implications.

At present payments can be made from the fund towards buying historic buildings, their contents and adjoining lands as well as towards their management and custody while in the hands of the secretary of State for Scotland. In that way valuable properties in

Scotland have been acquired relatively easily.

Mr. James Stormonth Darling, director of the National Trust for Scotland, said yesterday that in future payments for that purpose would be made from the Scottish Consolidated Fund. Pressures on the fund would be very heavy and the chance of securing any large grant would be slim.

In the devolution Bill the Government reserves a section for the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act, 1953. That means that England alone would have access to the National Land Fund.

Schools 'being forced back to chalk and talk'

Cuts mean illiteracy, teachers say

By Stephen Cohen, of The Times Educational Supplement

More children would leave school unable to read and write because of local authority cuts in educational spending, the National Union of Teachers said in its evidence yesterday to a subcommittee of the House of Commons expenditure committee.

Dr. Walter Roy, a member of the union's executive, told Miss Janet Fookes, chairman of the subcommittee and Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake: "There will be more illiterates because we have not the resources to devote to special remedial departments."

He said he had been informed that he would lose two teachers next year. One, a remedial teacher, would not be

replaced, and that would affect the help given to backward children.

Miss Fookes asked why there was a need for remedial teachers in secondary schools. Was it because primary schools were not doing their job properly?

Mr. Clifford Morris, head of a Leeds primary school, said that some schools were better equipped and more generously staffed and so were able to do better things.

In written evidence to the committee, which is looking at the attainments of school-leavers, the union said that pupils with low ability became more self-confident and motivated when they had the chance to take part in activities not just connected with learning. Those out-of-school activities

were expensive and, unless local authorities, provided for them, the less able pupils would never experience them.

"The attainments of this category of school-leaver, therefore, depend overwhelmingly on positive discrimination in their favour in the use of resources," the statement said.

"The union believes that the current trends in local authority financing at almost every level of demand such as this are acting against any improvement of the attainment of school-leavers in terms of their physical, emotional and social development."

"Schools are being forced back to a position of 'chalk and talk'. It is a denial of society's responsibility for these children."

Mathematical questions, page 4

More comprehensive schools replacing streaming with mixed-ability classes

By Mark Vaughan, of The Times Educational Supplement

The practice of streaming in comprehensive schools has been greatly reduced in recent years, according to a survey published today.

In 1972 it was found that just over a third of comprehensives had at least one year of streaming. A sample of 86 comprehensive schools at Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield shows that more than half the schools now have mixed-ability teaching.

Half of those with mixed-ability teaching have continued that practice for at least two years and one in 10 have kept it up for five years to 16-plus.

The results of the survey

in the latest issue of *Comprehensive Education*, the journal of the Campaign for Comprehensive Education. The work was carried out by Dr. Michael Lydiate, of Sheffield University, who said that generally school leaders reported staff discontent with mixed-ability teaching in a former grammar school setting.

"Sheffield's data also suggest more mixed-ability teaching in smaller schools and difficulties in larger ones. But, in general, school size does not seem to be a critical factor influencing mixed-ability teaching. Staff attitude is a vital factor here and can make or break a mixed-ability scheme in any size school."

The survey shows that in earlier years at comprehensive schools it is common practice for mathematics and language to be set while other academic subjects are run in mixed-ability teaching groups. Dr. Lydiate also found that the use of separate remedial streams was growing in popularity as a way of helping poor learners.

Bakers start national strike on Sunday

By Christopher Thomas

Labour Staff

The Bakers' Union drew up plans yesterday for a national strike from Sunday in support of pay increases of up to 25.69 per cent for 6,000 women workers. Most areas will get some bread but supplies will be greatly reduced.

The union's opening action will be to call out 17,000 members in the RRM group, which makes Hovis and Mother's Pride, and Spillers-French bakeries which makes Home-prise.

A week later those employees will return to work and the union will then call out 17,000 members at Allied Bakeries and at the big independent bakeries, including the Co-op. Allied produces Sunblest and Betabake.

The dispute coincides with the introduction of a new grading system and centres on work drawn from local morning goods such as bread rolls. The union says the new grading scheme will mean that four fifths of them, including men and women, will be paid a higher price than the remaining fifth who are women. It is demanding rises to end the anomaly.

The employers have offered to refer the dispute to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, but the offer has been rejected by the union. Mr. Samuel Maddox, the union's general secretary, said last night after an emergency committee meeting of full-time officers and executive members that he was willing to talk but the strike decision stood.

Mrs Thatcher goes walking in Belfast

From Our Correspondent

Belfast

Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, went shopping and walking in Belfast yesterday during a busy seven-hour visit to Northern Ireland which also took in Londonderry. She called at army during her trip, which had not been announced.

It was essentially a "meet the public" tour and the only public contact was in her message when she arrived at Aldergrove airport: "Northern Ireland is in the front line of the battle for freedom in the United Kingdom and we want the people here to know that the Conservative Party stands with them in their struggle against terrorism."

For her second visit to the province she was again accompanied by Mr. Airey Neave, Conservative spokesman on Northern Ireland.

She attended an informal buffet at Stormont at which

Balcombe Street man 'gave police the slip'

A month before the Balcombe Street siege the police saw

Martin Joseph O'Connell, the bomber, talking to an IRA suspect in a north London public house, but did not realize who he was, a Central Criminal Court jury was told yesterday.

Detectives tried to follow Mr. O'Connell when he left the public house the Lord High Admiral, in Paddington, but he gave them the slip, Mr. John Mathew, for the prosecution, said.

A month later Mr. O'Connell and three other terrorists were involved in what became known as the Balcombe Street siege. Mr. O'Connell was seen in the public house when detectives were keeping surveillance on another IRA suspect, James Murphy, Mr. Mathew said. The police manager to make up a Photofit picture of Mr. O'Connell, which was a very good likeness.

Mr. Mathew was opening the case against Mr. Murphy, aged 50, of Barnside Road, Maids Vale, and Anthony Cunningham, aged 32, of Kempe Road, Kilburn, both London, who are alleged to have been "errand boys" for the Balcombe Street bombers.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Cunningham had been plotting between December, 1974, and April, 1976, to cause explosions and discharge firearms. Mr. Cunningham has also denied withholding information that could have helped the police in preventing acts of terrorism and in leading to the

arrest and prosecution of terrorists.

Counsel said that after the police had raided a house in Fairholme Road, Kensington, Mr. Murphy was questioned about a letter found there referring to "Spotter" Murphy and an Army List. Mr. Murphy denied all knowledge of it.

After the Balcombe Street siege Mr. O'Connell's flat in Milnor Grove, Stoke Newington, was raided. It was another IRA bomb factory. The police found a holdall containing an Army List, the Civil Service Year Book for 1974, with Mr. Murphy's fingerprints, and the *Anarchist's Cook Book* with Mr. Cunningham's fingerprints.

Mr. Murphy, a messenger with a government department, was arrested and admitted giving the Civil Service Year Book to a man he would not name.

Mr. Mathew said another bomb factory was found at Wrotesley Road, Willesden, in April, 1976. Among items found there was a copy of *The Times* giving details of the election of parliamentary candidates. Mr. Cunningham's fingerprint was found on it.

Mr. Cunningham gave three different versions as to how his fingerprints came to be on the holdall. He said he was a member of the IRA and a terrorist told him: "If you open your mouth about this you will get a brain surgery. If I am listed you are a dead man; if you are not listed you are a Belfast." will be your family in Belfast."

The trial continues today.

8.5% rate cut move

If Preston council, Lancashire, accepts an 8.5 per cent rate reduction recommended by the council's policy and resources committee, ratepayers will be asked for 25.5p in the pound instead of 31.2p.

Reservoirs overflow

All reservoirs in the South West Water Authority area are full and many are overflowing. The policy of the authority is to let rain fall on Dartmoor during the first 10 days of this month. The February average is 5½ inches.

NCCL against removal of protective laws for women

Despite the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts women are

still paid less and enjoy less social protection than men, the National Council for Civil Liberties says in evidence to the Equal Opportunities Commission, published yesterday.

It says that protective laws such as the hours of overtime and shift work laws, which limit those hours of overtime and shift work, are necessary, not because women are weaker or inherently capable of doing less work than men but because of their family commitments.

"Although we look forward to a time when parenthood and domestic work are shared equally between the sexes, this is not the position today. Society does not yet help women by providing nurseries, after-school care or holiday

provisions for children, or other social services such as laundries.

"So the main burden still falls on the women if they are under more pressure to work anti-social hours many of them will suffer an increase in their children's

problems. In some cases conditions for men should be brought into line with those for women. On the factory floor, for instance, the maximum lifting weight is 150 lb for men, but 65 lb for women.

"Perhaps men would have fewer hernias if their maximum weight was brought into line with women's."

The report also recommends better standards for canteens, washing and transport facilities for night and shift workers, and improved maternity provisions

Princess Anne visits new police headquarters

Princess Anne spent 90

minutes last night at the new Thames Valley police headquarters in Reading. She signed the visitors' book to commemorate her visit to the £2.75m building.

Four years ago Thames Valley police stopped Princess Anne for alleged speeding on the M4, and she was cautioned.

Yesterday, after driving to Reading she was greeted by Mr. Francis Batters, chairman of the police authority, and Mr. David Holdsworth, the Chief Constable. Mr. Holdsworth will decide whether Princess Anne's husband, Captain Mark Phillips,

New role for Mr Heat

By Peter Hennessy

Mr. Edward Heath criticized the use to which Harold Wilson and James Callaghan had put the Policy Review Staff, a think tank founded in 1970.

He said the staff should concentrate on the wider strategy of the Government, rather than take inquiries for individual departments, or representation, or electrical power.

In evidence to a subcommittee of the Select Committee on the House of Commons, Mr. Heath said that the staff should be used to make inquiries for individual departments, or representation, or electrical power.

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Tory curb

From Our

Constitutional matters, such as more powers for the House of Lords, are a top priority for the Conservative Party, Mr. Edward Heath said yesterday.

He said the party would be looking for a way to curb the powers of the House of Lords, which he said was "a relic of the past."

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NEWS

100 doctors condemn abortion amendment as 'retrogressive'

Geddes, the Prime Minister's Reporter, said in a letter to the Prime Minister yesterday that 100 doctors have written to the Prime Minister opposing the proposed amendment to the Abortion Act, 1967. They say the amendment would be a "retrogressive step" and would increase the number of abortions.

The amendment, which was handed to the House of Commons yesterday, was by Dame Josephine Cook, a Conservative MP. It would allow a woman to have an abortion after the 26th week of pregnancy if she has a medical condition which is likely to cause her death or permanent physical or mental handicap.

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After drink-drive laws

Link-driving offences committed than 10 when the new laws were introduced, said Mr. Rogers, Secretary of Transport, said yesterday.

He also plans to repeal the training licence laws for driving instructors so that every new instructor will have to train and become registered before he can give paid tuition.

Mr. Rogers said: "In 1976 over half of all drivers killed in road accidents had alcohol in their blood and more than a third had more than the legal limit." Figures for young drivers separately, were even worse.



Some of the works Lady Spencer-Churchill is to sell at Christie's next month to meet her living expenses: a detail from 'The Pope's Palace at Avignon' (top left) and 'Mimosa' (top right), both by Sir Winston Churchill; and a detail from 'Nightingale, Chartwell' (bottom left), by Sir William Nicholson. Mrs. Spencer-Churchill expressed concern yesterday (our Political Correspondent writes) that Mr. Michael Brotherton, Conservative MP for Louth, said he was appalled to hear of her difficulties: it looked like ingratitude by the nation.

Poll shows 40% in favour of scrapping the EEC

British disillusionment with the EEC is steadily growing, and 40 per cent of people would be happy if it were scrapped, according to a new opinion poll published by NOP Market Research based on sample interviews last month. A Gallup Poll in January, 1976, found that 24 per cent of people would like the Community scrapped.

The latest NOP sampling found that only 35 per cent of people throughout British membership of the EEC was a good thing, against the 50 per cent finding by Gallup in January, 1976. NOP found 31 per cent of people would have been sorry to see the EEC scrapped. Gallup figure a year ago was 34 per cent.

A year ago 24 per cent thought membership was a bad thing, according to Gallup. In July last year the Gallup figure was 31 per cent and in September 37 per cent. Last month, NOP says, 41 per cent were against membership.

Of those interviewed by NOP 41 per cent thought EEC membership had contributed a great deal to rising food prices, 29 per cent thought it had contributed a fair amount, and 16 per cent that it had contributed a little.

Government accused of planning benefit cuts

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government is accused today of planning surreptitious cuts in social security by cutting rates for children on supplementary benefit and reducing the number of home visits to claimants.

These are the most damaging of the proposals by the Department of Health and Social Security for achieving staff cuts, the Society of Civil and Public Servants contends in a highly critical statement.

The most deplorable proposal, the society says, is to reduce the number of age-related allowances for children from the present five to either three or one.

The proposal for merging child-benefit rates was first made last year in the annual report of the Supplementary Benefits Commission as one of a number of ideas for a review of the way the system works. But Professor David Donnison, chairman of the commission, emphasized that any such move should not leave any family worse off than before. The review is considering that proposal, among others, and a report is expected in September, 1978.

Close eye on barmaids who charge too much

Persistent overcharging by barmaids was exposed yesterday by Mr. Brian Beckett, Consumer Protection Officer for Avon County Council. He has ordered his staff of 30 enforcement officers to watch for evidence in licensed premises throughout the county.

Mr. Beckett's department prosecuted three barmaids last year for overcharging in Bristol. All pleaded guilty and were fined £50, £100 and £125 respectively by the magistrates.

One of Mr. Beckett's staff saw a barmaid charge a woman 70p instead of 65p for a round of drinks. Twice she charged 35p instead of 34p and another time 34p instead of 32p.

Mr. Beckett said barmaids regularly added a penny or more to a round of drinks and rang up the inflated price on the till. "In some cases they could be in cahoots with the management, but generally they do it so that their own drinks and cheap drinks for their friends do not show up at stock-taking time."

Unwritten union agreements valid, judge says

Recognition agreements between independent unions and employers do not have to be in writing to be valid under the Employment Protection Act, the Employment Appeal Tribunal ruled yesterday.

It allowed an appeal by the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers against an industrial tribunal ruling that it was not recognized by Charles Ingram & Co. Ltd., a clothing company, and therefore was not entitled to seek "protective" pay awards for union members made redundant.

Mr. Justice Phillips, president of the appeal tribunal, said that in the absence of a written agreement it was sufficient that the facts clearly gave rise to an inference that the employers had recognized the union.

Collisions before warship sank

Correspondent

As a result of a misunderstanding, HMS Frobisher, a minesweeper, was involved in a collision with the North Sea last week at Portsmouth of the ship's commander, Lieutenant Peter Paget, aged 34.

A mistake was when ship turned to starboard of port into the HMS Frobisher, a 2,300 ton minesweeper, and was capsized.

Lieutenant Paget, of Stortford, Hertfordshire, died not guilty to the ship to be hazardous, of allowing her to d, and one charge of mistake.

It was told that the as the first of seven ers, all manned by Naval Reserve, due supplies from HMS the flagstaff by e on passage to after the Nato samwork.

circumstantial letter alke Parker said that al Hubert Hollins, commanding Reserves, the minesweepers to sequence.

was no apparent rom HMS Frobisher, not ready was a directive to re- The Frobisher was Var are you waiting almost at once she turn to starboard of the was hampered by



Commander Paget: Four charges denied.

HMS Frobisher and HMS Crofton, which had misinterpreted the admiral's intention and followed the Frobisher out of line.

The Frobisher took up her replenishment position about 60ft to port of the Mermade. She was in disturbed water and yawing five degrees. Lines being thrown by the minesweeper crew only bounced off the frigate.

"HMS Frobisher altered course to starboard and began to have ahead in relation to HMS Mermade and to close her rapidly." The two ships collided side on. The Frobisher bounced 10ft clear and seemed to accelerate. Commander Paget ordered reductions of speed and corrected a swing of the stern of his ship.

The hearing continues today.

jailed by case

Londoners were jailed Central Criminal Court for trying to bribe a witness. Frank Mifsud, 38, was fined £2,000 to disappear, was told.

Mifsud, aged 53, his of Upstall Street, all, and Joseph aged 38, a head of Devereux Road, were each jailed for 12 months. Emmanuel Borg, of Aldebert Terrace, Walsby, was jailed for 12 months. All pleaded guilty to 10 to pervert the justice.

Michael Hill, for the n, said Frank Mifsud charged with subornman named Harold o give false evidence a to a trial concerning s in 1967. The three s tried to bribe Mr ot to appear as a wit- the Central Criminal

Tory group seeks ways to curb rise in Scottish crime

From Our Correspondent Glasgow

Controversial recommendations, such as giving the police more powers of search and arrest, are expected to come from a Scottish crime advisory committee, set up yesterday by Mr. Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Glasgow, Scotland, at the instigation of Mrs. Thatcher.

The chairman of the committee, Mr. James Anderson, formerly senior magistrate of Glasgow and a chairman of Glasgow City Council's police committee, pointed out that there had been 18 killings this year in Strathclyde, only one fewer than in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Taylor, MP for Glasgow, Catherston, told a press conference yesterday that he hoped the committee's conclusions would provide ways of curbing the appalling increase in crime in Scotland, which he saw as a top priority for his policies. He hoped the committee would hold its first meeting within a fortnight and would submit the first of a series of interim reports, for public consultation in time for the Scottish Conservative Party conference in May.

Vandalism and violence were worrying, depressing and alarming, especially in Strathclyde, where there had been 18 killings in the past seven weeks, compared with only 16 murder convictions for the whole of Scotland between 1951 and 1975. Crimes of violence had trebled between 1955 and 1975.

The members of the committee include Mr. William Dalziel, deputy chairman of the Conservative Party in Scotland and a member of the Parole Board, and Mr. Duncan McKenzie, former governor of Barlinnie Prison, Glasgow.

Its establishment coincides with the start of an internal investigation by Mr. James Binnie, Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) for Strathclyde.

Football supporter jailed

Clarke, aged 18, of Street, Oxford, was v Oxford magistrates months yesterday for rival supporters at two matches.

Mr. Wernert's part in police called "a night of rage and vandalism" in urmonth, put him in a ur and cost him more 10 yesterday.

Wernert, aged 22, was into Great Yarmouth's Court in a wheel- cause he cur his foot ten kicking in a news- plate glass window in

Salvage-claim barge is sunk

A 185ft steel barge on which three villagers hope to make a salvage fortune has had to be sunk because it threatened to damage harbour walls at Boscastle, Cornwall. It broke its moorings on Sunday and was pumped full of water by firemen to sink it.

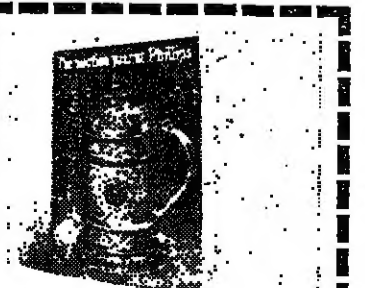
The three villagers who had found and brought in the barge are making a salvage claim of at least £50,000. They have been told that settlement might take a year.

Phillips Specialists	Pacemakers to watch in 1977	Items which should continue to be a good hedge against inflation	Some relevant prices realised in 1976
Furniture  Michael Cowley	As ever - quality. Good 19th Century French & Continental reproduction also 1920s & 1930s furniture. Walnut Dining tables.	Under £500: Good Victorian, e.g. desks. £500-£2000: Good English & Continental; Sets of Hepplewhite & Sheraton chairs. £2000 plus: Best English.	 A 19th Century carved walnut elbow chair £280.
Clocks & Objects of Art  Christopher Hawkings	Quality and those items which made the running in 1976. Metalwork. Carriage lamps in original condition.	Under £500: English & French 19th Century clocks. Pewter. £500-£2000: Bracket & longcase clocks. Good bronzes, wood carvings.	 An animalier bronze, signed by P. Lemeroy £800.
Carpets, Rugs, etc.  James Pettifer	Turkish and Asia Minor rugs. Saddlebags and tent hangings.	Under £500: Caucasian rugs; smaller rugs and saddlebags. £500-£2000: Persian.	 A 19th Century Uzbekistan tent hanging £400.
Silver, Gold and Plate  Eric Smith	Good Victorian silver. Vasegrasses. Sheffield & electroplate.	Under £500: Small, good Georgian silver. Boxes, spoons, Plate. £500-£2000: 18th Century Continental silver. Flatware, candlesticks.	 A pair of Old Sheffield Plate candlesticks £150 & water jug £90.
Jewellery, Watches, etc.  Stuart Betts	Diamond solitaire rings of fine quality which are becoming rarer. Oriental pearls of Persian Gulf origin.	Under £500: Good gold bracelets. Victorian and Edwardian small diamond brooches. Good Victorian silver watches. £500-£2000: Good diamond rings. Fabergé. £2000 plus: Anything of rarer stones, such as alexandrites. Later 19th and early 20th Century repeating watches and pocket chronometers.	 A solitaire brilliant cut diamond ring, approx. 4.2cts. £6,800.
Ceramics & Glass  Jo Marshall	Pretty, small items in English porcelain.	Under £500: Pickle dishes, basters, miniatures, English blue and white. 18th Century Continental figures. Good early 18th Century baluster glasses. £500-£2000: Good quality Worcester, Minton and Coalport vases by artists of repute. Finely engraved commemorative glasses. £2000 plus: Cameo glass.	 A pair of First Period Worcester figures of Turks £2,300.
Oriental Works of Art & Ceramics  Nicholas Hilder	Middle Eastern art. Ming and 17th Century bronze.	Under £500: Ivorys. £500-£2000: Oriental swords & sword fittings. £2000 plus: Fine Netsuke.	 A Ming gold vase £360.
Paintings, Watercolours, Prints  Andrew Bowyer	Sustained development in Old Masters. Prints: Mezzotints and stipple engravings.	Under £500: OM drawings and prints. Good modern British is underpriced. Wide choice of prints. £500-£2000: OM pictures and drawings. Fine 18th Century engravings. £2000: Old Masters.	 Girolamo da Santa Croce: The Ammanniation £5,200.
Books, Textiles, Art Nouveau & Deco, & Other Collectors' Items  Keith Baker	Old photographs. Preiss and Chiparus Art Deco figures. Good quality violin bows.	Under £500: Victorian cookery books. Gallé glass. Metal toys. £500-£2000: Good travel and exploration books. Art Deco bronze and ivory figures and Art Nouveau jewellery.	 A Preiss figure: "Breasting the Tide" £3,400.

Take a good look at 1977

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HOME NEWS

Twenty mathematical questions school-leavers are expected to get right first time

Mr B. T. Bellis, Headmaster of The Leys School, Cambridge, and chairman of a committee of teachers that has devised 20 specimen questions to achieve a national standard of basic skills in school mathematics, denied yesterday that the intention was to make the test the main determinant of the syllabus.

What was seen as an acceptable standard of proficiency for most pupils of school-leaving age would be achieved by some at the age of nine or 10, he said. Many interesting topics in mathematics that were accessible even to the least able were not included in the "essential minimum" and it would be wrong to compel some pupils to spend five years in secondary schools practising only basic skills.

Much of the value of those skills lay in the use made of them. It was, therefore, not sufficient to test basic skills in isolation. The aim was, rather, to encourage understanding of the common applications of such skills, and that should be reflected in the test.

But even if a question required only a few sentences to describe the "problem", however simple, it became a test of comprehension as well as of mathematical skill. The chronological and "reading" ages of pupils must be taken into account in the presentation of questions; as many as possible should appear in the form in which they would be encountered in everyday life.

"It is clear that there will be differing opinions as to what should be included in the list of basic skills", Mr Bellis said. "The availability of cheap electronic calculators reduces the need to practise complicated arithmetical calculations, but it is still necessary to understand the processes involved, and this understanding can be tested through simple examples."

The committee did not know what proportion of school-leavers could answer the kind of questions it had in mind, but they indicated "what we ought to be able to expect of the majority of the population". They were intended to be straightforward, "they seem easy (even too easy) it is because the majority of pupils are expected to get most of them right."

Although schools should not spend all their time teaching basic skills in mathematics, "we are not convinced that all schools concentrate on them sufficiently at present", Mr Bellis said. "The success, or otherwise, of pupils would naturally reflect on the school concerned."

Schools should not be castigated for poor performance, but with a change of emphasis it was hoped progress could be made. There might, however, also be indications of a need for additional teachers or for further training of those without the necessary mathematical background.

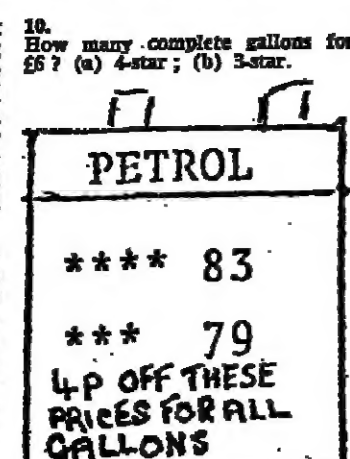
The proposed questions are as follows:

1. $534 + 384 =$
2. Complete the following by writing in the equivalent fractions: (a) $0.25 = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$; (b) $50\% = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$; (c) $0.1 = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$; (d) $5\% = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$
3. $21.65 - 18.09 =$
4. $18.56 \times 7 =$
5. Estimate the value of $708 \div 31$ to the nearest 10
6. Shade in the fraction

(a) $\frac{3}{4}$ (b) $\frac{1}{8}$
(c) $\frac{1}{3}$ (d) $\frac{7}{10}$

7. What is cost of ten 8p stamps?
8. Chess
Stalls 45p. Circle 65p. No hair
price.
What would it cost for a family of four to go to the cinema? (a) to the stalls; (b) to the circle; (c) how much dearer for the whole family is the circle?
9.

The table shows the times of trains between Ribchester and London.
(a) What is the latest train that I can catch from Ribchester to arrive in London before 3.30 pm?
(b) At last time does the fastest train shown on this timetable leave Ribchester? At what time does the slowest train leave Ribchester?
(c) How long does the 11.59 from Ribchester take to get to London? (to nearest 1 hour).



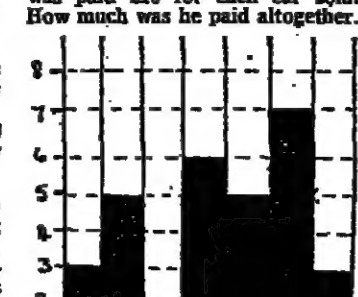
10. How many complete gallons for \$57 (a) 4-star; (b) 3-star.

11. John paid £2.52 for seven large tins of dog food. How much were they each?
12. The rent of a house is £9.80 a week. To the nearest £100, how much is this a year?
13.

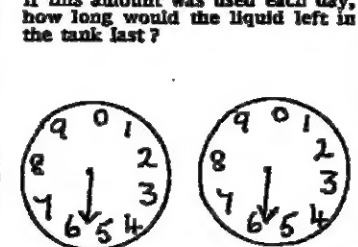
The numbers above show four motorways. It is 25 miles from exit nine to exit 12 and seven miles from exit 11 to exit 12. Exit 10 is halfway from exit nine to exit 11. How far is it from exit nine to exit 10?
14. A cheque is made out for seven hundred and two pounds and forty-three pence. Write this amount in figures.
15. Given that $23 \times 51 = 1,173$, write down the values of (a) 2.3×5.1 ; (b) $2,300 \times 510$; (c) 0.23×0.51 .

16. A small jar of cleaner (containing 100 grams) costs 25p; a large jar containing 250 grams costs 60p. What is the saving if I buy two large packs instead of buying the same amount in small jars?
17. Five people have the following wages: £30, £20.45, £25.62, £35.50, £40. (a) What is the average wage? (b) Express the smallest wage as a fraction of the largest.
18. A bedroom suite is in a sale, where everything is "20% off". The normal price is £225. What is the sale price? If you paid a deposit of 4, how many months would it take to pay off the rest at £10 a month?

19. This chart shows the number of cars unsold by a salesman in one week. (a) How many did he sell on his best day? (b) The garage is closed on one day each week. Which day is this? (c) He was paid £10 for each car sold. How much was he paid altogether?



20. These dials show the number of gallons of liquid in a factory storage tank. Find the number of gallons used in the day. Morning reading: gallons; Evening reading: gallons; amount used in a day: gallons.
If this amount was used each day, how long would the liquid left in the tank last?



Thousands Hundreds Tens Units
Thousands Hundreds Tens Units

Lodger and fiancée get life jail for murder

From Our Correspondent St Albans

Terence Lammin, aged 39, and his fiancée, Eileen Bailey, also aged 39 and mother of nine children, were jailed at St Albans Crown Court, Hertfordshire, yesterday, for life for murdering Miss Bertha Baridon, aged 91, his landlady.

The jury found the couple guilty of murder and Mr Lammin guilty of a further charge of attempted murder.

Mr Barry Hudson, QC, for the prosecution, said the couple, of Sleeps Hyde, Stevenage, had plotted the woman's death after she had changed her will so that almost her entire estate would go to Mr Lammin.

The estate comprised her detached house in Rampton Park Road, Hitchin, and cash savings including £9,000 in a building society.

He said the couple killed Miss Baridon, a Swiss-born retired dressmaker, by first giving her an overdose of drugs in her Ovaltine and then smothering her with a pillow as she lay unconscious. Such had been the couple's greed that they could not wait for her to die naturally even though she had a heart ailment.

The couple, who until then were penniless, planned a new life in Australia. They had got engaged only 12 hours before the murdered landlady and the next day Mr Lammin bought a £125 engagement ring. The girl gave away two months' wages.

Miss Baridon's cremation with the money "almost in their pockets", counsel said. The boy friend of Mrs Bailey's daughter, Leslie, went to Stevenage police station and told detectives how the couple were openly admitting that they had killed Miss Baridon.

In brief

Fine for selling beer on credit

Santam Singh, aged 36, a licensee of Well Lane, Wednesfield, Staffordshire, was fined £5 by the Wolverhampton magistrates yesterday for selling beer on credit.

Girl murder charge

Peter Colin Hunter, aged 26, married, of Paradise Road, Downham Market, Norfolk, was remanded in custody for eight days by King's Lynn magistrates yesterday, accused of the murder of Heidi Reddin, aged 14.

King Khaled improves

The condition of King Khaled of Saudi Arabia was said to be very satisfactory in the Wellington Hospital, London, yesterday, after a recent hip operation.

Minster staff in union

Thirteen members of the indoor staff of York Minster, including six vergers, have joined the Transport and General Workers' Union. The head vergers is shop steward.

Fall near live rail

Mrs Carol Oldham, aged 23, of Browning Road, Wallasey, was treated for shock yesterday after falling near the power rail of the Mersey underground at Wallasey Village station.

Caretakers strike

Eighty schools in Swansea were unable to open yesterday because of a strike by caretakers in protest against a new appointment.

Rail service cut

Through services on the London-Hastings main railway line were halted yesterday by a landslide at Wadhurst, East Sussex. They are expected to resume on Thursday.

650 birds destroyed

About 650 oil-covered birds found in the area of a farm, borough Head, Humberside, during the weekend have had to be destroyed.

Heavy cost for driver who ran

When Thomas Bourke, aged 21, a lorry driver, was seen tipping rubbish on Barnet council property he was chased by the site foreman and the police but the handbrake that followed cost him £1,400 at Hendon Magistrates Court London, yesterday.

After driving his 11-ton lorry across pavements, Mr Bourke, of Warrender Road, Upper Holloway, London, found his path blocked. He abandoned the lorry and ran off. David Taylor said, but the handbrake was not set; the lorry rolled back into the police van, pushing it on to the pavement. It knocked down two walls of a private garage and damaged a Mini parked inside, and then through a fence surrounding an electricity substation.

Mr Bourke pleaded guilty to abandoning a quantity of topsoil without permission at Croydon stadium, Mill Hill; driving dangerously; having no insurance; no licence; failing to stop the engine and set the handbrake; damaging a garage and a Mini; and damaging fencing.

He was fined £225 and ordered to pay £1,000 compensation for the garage and £175 for damage to the car. He was disqualified from driving for a year.

Cuts 'will mean poor children missing school'

By a Staff Reporter

Proposed cuts in Leicester-shire's school clothing grant will greatly increase the number of children unable to go to school because they have no clothes or shoes, an open letter of complaint to the council from the Child Poverty Action Group says.

The council plans to spend £45,000 on clothing grants next year, less than half this year's sum. But the action group says the number of needy cases has risen by more than a third and that since November no money has been left for families needing grants.

The council will vote tomorrow on the cuts.

Dog's new life

Margaret, a five-month-old mongrel chosen from 500 strays at The Dog's Home, Battersea, by Shaukh Sultan al Dhari flew from Heathrow airport yesterday to live in her new master's palace at Abu Dhabi.

Islanders fear that uranium-bearing land will be taken regardless of their wishes

Regional report

Ronald Faux Orkney

Mr Edwin Ritchie's farm lies in the "uranium corridor" north of Stromness. It is pleasant countryside rising to the dramatic cliffs at Yessaby where the Atlantic tears at the edge of Orkney.

Mr Ritchie and his neighbours are uneasy about the possibility that their land might be the source of a vein of uranium. He said: "It is something we simply do not know about. Ask me about farming and I can give you an answer. Ask me about uranium and I can only guess. No one has really explained about it but I reckon it is the stuff in there they will take it away, whatever we say."

The application from the South of Scotland Electricity Board to drill 11 test holes on the land will be considered today by the Orkney Islands Council. It is likely to support the decision by the council's planning committee to refuse the application, arguing that since Orkney could never countenance large scale mining there is little point in testing the ground.

Islanders are also concerned because the issue has ever raised such wholehearted resistance. They fear that uranium has become expensive enough to make the Orkney deposits worth exploiting.

Since preliminary tests put the concentration about one part of ore to eight of rock it

Decline in job openings for graduates 'socially unjust'

From John Chartres Manchester

The sudden reduction in job opportunities for graduates in the public sector is economically absurd and socially unjust, Mr Bernard Holloway, secretary to the Manchester University Appointments Board, says in his annual report.

He argues that the ability of the universities to adapt quickly to an economic crisis is limited. Nothing can be done to affect the supply of graduates before 1980.

Mr Holloway, who last year drew attention to the high professional salaries being paid in the public sector compared with those in private industry, suggests that there now appears to be a strong case for holding back the rate of increase of public-sector wages and salaries.

He says "resource sharing" might produce a part solution to unemployment, observing that teachers with second-class honours degrees are paid a starting salary of just under £3,200, compared with an average of £2,500 to £2,600 earned by their fellows elsewhere.

Had it been possible for teachers to be employed as teachers at this salary £2,500, five new teachers could have been recruited and paid for every four who have actually been employed.

He also says that suggestions that more school-leavers should study science and technology, and that that would help to lessen the nation's predicament, do not take account of international comparisons which suggest that Britain is already in relation to the size of population, producing as many scientists and engineers as other Western nations.

A survey conducted among students who graduated at Manchester University and became available for teaching employment last year showed that in mid-September just under 15 per cent had been unable to find jobs. For students who obtained degrees through colleges associated with the university the figure was 20 per cent.

fee, which sustained its independence. Advertising at a sports venue was accepted as part of the scene, provided it was reasonably permanent, but resisted when placed on participants: "We have said this because it seems to be the only line which we can draw and easily hold."

The history of exploitation by commercial interests gave no encouragement to the view that they would show restraint of their own accord. Unless broadcasters and organisers of sports combined to regulate the application of

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BBC chief's warning on corruption in advertising

By Kenneth Goeling
Sir Charles Curran, Director-General of the BBC, has given a warning of the risk of corruption that might arise from unregulated advertising at sports venues or on participants.

In a speech made privately to sports administrators last week, and released yesterday by the BBC, Sir Charles said: "Nothing could be easier than to slip a five- and, indeed, a very great deal more—into the back pocket of the cameraman or the director in order to



Today Rolls-Royce has a new Shadow

The new Silver Shadow II. Rather more than 2000 changes distinguish it from the original Silver Shadow of 1965. Many are modifications in detail introduced unobtrusively over the years.

But the major improvements introduced today set the Shadow II a Mark apart. They are the unique Rolls-Royce two-level automatic air-conditioning, rack-and-pinion steering, modified front suspension, a re-designed fascia, front anti-lift panel, wrap-around bumpers and a new twin exhaust system.

So much for the substance. Now come with us a little more deeply into the Shadow.

It is seventy years since a motoring journalist coined the phrase 'the best car in the world'. A description few Rolls-Royce owners would care to question.

Partly because the harmonious balance of safety, silence, smoothness, speed, comfort and distinction it provides remains unique.

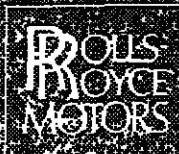
Partly because these qualities are not transitory; they are a long-term asset. More than half of the Rolls-Royce motor cars ever made are still on the road.

But most of all because a Rolls-Royce continues to represent the ultimate in engineering, in materials and in workmanship. It is still built individually and largely by hand by craftsmen who take personal responsibility for every operation they perform. And every owner has the opportunity to express his personal preferences. No Shadow has an identical twin; not even another Silver Shadow.

At the same time, the Shadow II is a considerable achievement in advanced engineering.

Some examples. An alloy V-8 engine - the power plants of grand prix cars are made of the same materials in much the same way. A dual braking system that provides effective stopping power on all four wheels should one circuit fail. A self-levelling suspension system so sensitive that it compensates progressively for the use of fuel. An ultra-sophisticated electrical system that replaces many mechanical linkages. Even the speedometer (it reads to 999,999 miles!) is now electronic: accuracy and reliability are improved and the last possible source of mechanical noise in the instrument system vanishes with the speedometer cable.

There will never be a better day than this to take the first step from the shadows towards the Shadow. From today, your local Rolls-Royce Appointed Distributor can arrange for you to inspect and test drive the new Silver Shadow II. If you do not know him, already he is listed on the facing page.



Makers of the best car in the world.

The traditional Rolls-Royce mascot, radiator grill and badge are registered Trade Marks.

ce prospects bring ension within estinian leadership

But when the Palestine National Council, the Parliament in exile, meets in Cairo on March 12 to decide its policy at Geneva and its attitude towards a future Palestinian state, Mr Salah Khalaf, Mr Arafat's deputy and one of his closest supporters, will find himself in trouble and may well be replaced.

Mr Khalaf, an outspoken leftist radical better known as Abu Iyad, was military commander during the Lebanese war. He is blamed by the Syrians for the war and the Syrians, who are packing the enlarged National Council with their own supporters, regard him as the most dispensable of the PLO leadership.

Mr Khalaf made some of the most provocative statements on the left side during the civil war. When the beleaguered Christian forces turned the port of Jounieh into their temporary capital, it was the memorable phrase "The road to Palestine passes through Jounieh".

During the council's deliberations, the Syrians are reliving the Zohabi Mohsen, whose Saiga guerrilla group works for the Damascus Government. He is likely to be the man to demand Mr Khalaf's dismissal and he will be backed by Mr Abdou Moush (Abu Maiter), the PLO's official spokesman and a former Syrian Baathist.

Mr Khalaf is now widely regarded as a well-known, but remains leader of the time being, as an official put it, is supported by the communist attitude.

Islamic life go on the Gulf states. He is unwillingly, pan-Arab suggestion, a state on bank and, for the safe.

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Choice of 'liberty or slavery' for India

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, Feb 21

The Congress for Democracy, a party founded by Mr Jagjivan Ram, is appealing to the people "to be fearless and vote with clear conscience". In its election manifesto released here today it pledges the restoration of all democratic rights, an end to the emergency and the repeal of arbitrary laws.

In the economic field, it advocates curbs on the monopolies and promises of fixed prices for essential commodities and fair prices for farmers. The full participation of workers in industry, completion of speedy land reforms, and homes and sites for homes for both the rural and urban populations, are among other pledges.

"You are face to face with life and death, liberty and slavery, people's rule and open society or rule by a caucus," the manifesto declares. "The coming election provides the last opportunity to revert back to the democratic way of life bequeathed to us by the father of the nation (Mahatma Gandhi)."

"If this occasion is lost, if we fail to discharge our obligation correctly, a dark night will descend on our people which will continue for decades to come."

His predecessor was also a Communist, Mr E. M. S. Namboodiripad, who heads the second Communist Party which is Marxist. The CPI is Moscow-oriented while the CPI (M), closer to China, stands for the purity of the Marxist-Leninist teachings.

In this state, the CPI is allied for electoral purposes with Mrs Gandhi's Congress Party; in some other states it has aligned itself with the opposition while in yet others it is going it alone. The rationale given by CPI leaders for this bewildering conflict of alliances is that the party will join hands with those parties which they consider are fighting reaction.

The CPI in Kerala has formed an electoral front with Janatha, the main line-up of the opposition led by Mr Morarji Desai. The dilemma is that allies do not have to be friends, but enemies of the same enemy.

The most interesting candidate in this state is Mr George Verghese, who has been nominated for his home town. Though born in Kerala, he has lived here so little as to be unable to speak the local Malayalam dialect, which may be a disadvantage.

He was for some time Mrs Gandhi's press adviser and resigned to become editor of the *Hindustan Times*, from which he was ousted when he began to oppose the Prime Minister's policies. He is standing as an independent but is supported by the opposition parties.

Slogans are already appearing on walls. Where the local party activist has not yet thought of a slogan, he has scrawled "Booked for..." with the party's initials.

Judging from the slogans and speeches here Congress supporters are pushing the party's record in office and the stability they offer, while the opposition concentrates on attacking the emergency and Mr Sanjay Gandhi.

"Sanjayane Vanda" (We don't want Sanjay) is a popular inscription. The prime Minister's son, by the way, has never visited here. The Chief Minister said he would refuse to receive him and so he did not come.

But this is a long way from Delhi and the masses here are less interested in these remote subjects than with high prices and continuing unemployment.

This is the state which claims 70 per cent literacy and the highest concentration of Christians. Both sides are well-organized and the election is likely to be fairly conducted.

With its large funds, the Congress Party will be able to provide cars to bring voters to the poll, but only in those areas where its voters live. It is well aware of the canny voter who drives in a Congress car but votes for the opposition. In many areas where the distance is too great to make walking popular, getting voters to the polling station will determine the result.

The opposition here is more united than at the election in 1971 and partly compensates for its lack of resources by enterprise. One candidate who has been mayor of Cochin for 25 years and left the Congress Party in 1972 after 44 years membership is standing for the Janata Party. I doubt if he really believes his statement to me that the pro-Congress forces will be defeated in Kerala.

But there is discontent here and if the opposition can remove fears among the villagers of future reprisals if they vote "against the Government" they should be able to strengthen their position.

From William Frankel
Cochin, Kerala, Feb 21

The state of Kerala in the deep south of India sends 20 representatives to the Lok Sabha. It has more parties than any other state, for reasons closer to personal power politics than political beliefs. When nominations closed on Thursday, there were 120 candidates for the 20 seats, though some will undoubtedly withdraw.

This is lush agricultural country. It grows rice, tea, coconut, pepper and exports them from the developing port of Cochin which is the hope for a prosperous future.

It is already hot and humid, especially in the urban areas where the concentration of population is high—in old Cochin, the highest in India. Life is hard but leisurely in these tropical parts and the only person in a hurry seems to be the rich who are willing to lose his momentum.

Unemployment is a long standing problem and accounts for the success of the Communists here. This is the only state in India with a Communist Chief Minister, Mr Achutha Menon, leader of the Kerala Communist Party of India (CPI).



Mr Jayaprakash Narayan addresses a Calcutta rally of the opposition Janata party.

formed earlier this month by dissidents from the Congress Party headed by Mr Ram, who was Agriculture Minister and Mrs Gandhi's most senior colleague until he was defeated.

Today was the last day for the withdrawal of candidates.

The Janata Party would contest 71 seats in Uttar Pradesh. Mr Surendra Mohan, its secretary-general, said, leaving only 12 for the CPI instead of the 20 originally agreed. They had named common candidates for the two remaining seats.

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Kerala Communists' allies need not be friends

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Apparent Giscard snub to Soviet dissident

Paris, Feb 21.—Mr Andrei Amalrik, the exiled Soviet dissident who was apparently rebuffed in his attempt to meet President Giscard d'Estaing about political repression in the Soviet Union, today refused to see a French official of lower rank.

After arriving from Holland on Sunday, Mr Amalrik said that he hoped to meet the President but that he had received no reply to a telegram he sent asking for an appointment. Instead, he was asked today to meet M. Francois Deschateaux, a French official who is helping to arrange this summer's Belgrade conference about the implementation of the Helsinki human rights accords.

The Elysée Palace refused to say whether the President had refused to meet Mr Amalrik, but observers said that the dissident would not be received by him. If Mr Giscard d'Estaing received Mr Amalrik, according to the observers, he would be putting a higher priority on human rights than on the principle of non-interference in the affairs of another nation.

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and her first stop will be Vienna, the sources said. She is one of the original 12 members of the surveillance group. Mr Yuri Orlov, its chairman, and Mr Alexander Ginzburg, another member, are now being held in jail on unspecified charges. —Agence France-Presse.

Warsaw: Polish dissidents were today severely criticised by the press as "people who wish Poland all the worst". The newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* said: "In their interest is the weakening of our country and the undermining of the prestige of the authorities."

The newspaper said that in view of the forthcoming Belgrade conference, the bourgeois press was attempting to create an atmosphere that would be "the least clement for the constructive proposals of socialist nations."

It tries to accuse them of attempting to extort political profits from the Helsinki agreements," it added, claiming that Poland had become one of the targets of those attacks.

Vienna: Forty Bulgarian dissident intellectuals were questioned and 14 of them detained in mid-January as copies circulated in Sofia of a French newspaper reprinting the text of the Czechoslovak Charter 77 human rights manifesto, an Austrian newspaper said today. It was not clear whether they were still under arrest.

Frankfurt: Heinrich Böll, the former historian in a publishing house, has received a visa for Israel for herself, her husband, and her son. She has already bought airline tickets.

Romanian civil rights man to meet party official

From Desza Trevisan
Bucharest, Feb 21

Mr Paul Goma, the Romanian dissident who has been in prison for 100 days and that despite police surveillance a few people came to his door expressing the wish to sign the letter campaigning for human rights. He said that he himself was beginning to feel harassed by the response to his appeal and claimed that several workers wished to join his campaign.

The Government's decision to talk with Mr Goma, suggests a wish to end the matter as quickly as possible. In fact the Romanian authorities have shown more skill in handling a situation they were not prepared for, than any other East Europeans have done so far. They have issued passports and although Mr Goma was exposed to police harassment, they refrained from hasty detention.

The meeting will be held tomorrow at the party headquarters and will be attended by Mr Nicolae Breban, another writer and friend of Mr Goma, who has acted as a go-between. The decision, which is unprecedented, could not have been taken without President Ceausescu's consent.

Half an hour before he received the invitation, Mr Goma was still complaining of harassment which, however, was eased today though his telephone was still being cut off whenever the caller wished to express sympathy.

Mr Goma said that he had received at least 100 calls and that despite police surveillance a few people came to his door expressing the wish to sign the letter campaigning for human rights. He said that he himself was beginning to feel harassed by the response to his appeal and claimed that several workers wished to join his campaign.

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Feb 21.—Mr Cyrus American Secretary of State said at the end of a tour of the Middle East no progress had been made in the key issue of representation at a peace conference.

He told Mr Ismail Fahmi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, that Egypt regarded the Palestinian issue as the crux of the Middle East problem.

Mr de Guiringaud has already visited Lebanon, Syria and Jordan to discuss the role France and other West European countries should play in reaching a Middle East peace settlement.

Mr Fahmi told him that Israel was trying to obstruct peace efforts by objecting to the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization at a resumed peace conference in Geneva, according to the Egyptian newspaper *Al-Ahram*. He reiterated his view that EEC countries should also take part.—Reuters.

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French view out to Mr Fahmi

Feb 21.—Mr de Guiringaud, the French Foreign Minister, said in Cairo today that the Middle East crisis could not be settled without a just solution of the Palestinian question, according to Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources.

He told Mr Ismail Fahmi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, that Egypt regarded the Palestinian issue as the crux of the Middle East problem.

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body. Green is delighted back in action and will celebrate with one of the players that has made him a great attraction in the business today.

Independent television captured the exclusive rights to screen the John v Len Hutchins world lightweight title contest at 11 p.m. on March 5. The British Board of Control regulation allows a live showing of championship contests held in this country, so the bout was screened at 11 p.m. 30 minutes after the scheduled start.

Cricket

Denness a good fit in Essex framework

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sh Music
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h Music Theatre will
to new productions
revivals during the
summer. Purcell's
Queen, which is being
in celebration of the
silver jubilee, will
billee Day itself, June
be directed by Colin
and conducted by
dford, the company's
ectors, with designs
Docherty. This pro-
been made possible
was grant from the
lebrations committee
en's Silver Jubilee.

The Magic Flute
directed by Colin
d designed by Chris-
ley, Stuart Bedford
Parry will conduct.
also be revivals of
ful 1976 production
of *Cinderella* and of
English Opera Group
of Britten's *Albert*.
The company will
owns on tour as well
at the Aldeburgh
d at Sadler's Wells

at the autumn
is Arts Council pro-
cessary funds,
a premiere of a
missioned work by
worth and Benny
About Alice, based
and works of Lewis
evival of last year's
of the Brecht/Weill
enny Opera, and a
roduction of Conrad
formations, a recent
work based on an
of Grimm's *Fairy*
ne Sexton.

GALLERIES
GALLERY ARTISTS
dishes, The Mall, S.W.1.
10-12, Sat. 10-1.
Fth. Adm. Free.
LEVER, 11 Metcomb St.,
S. Dulwich, London, S.E.15.
Adm. 50p.
ALLIANCE, 100, Regent St.,
London, W.1.
Adm. 50p.
ADAMS, 10, Pall Mall, S.W.1.
Adm. 50p.
GALLERY, 10, Pall Mall, S.W.1.
Adm. 50p.
GALLERY, 10, Pall Mall, S.W.1.
Adm. 50p.

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**English
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opera**
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**Verdi and Holst
at Haddo House**
The Haddo House Choral
Society will be giving four
performances of Verdi's *Azila* in
Aberdeen from March 23 to

Terry Frost: responding to whatever is new

Terry Frost did not start painting until he was in his late twenties, in a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany in 1943. Encouraged by a fellow prisoner, the painter Adrian Heath, Frost finally got into Camberwell Art School in 1947 financed by a "Further Education and Training" grant for ex-servicemen (the British equivalent of the GI Bill).

Frost's art school life was not a happy one. He remained the eternal student at heart, a much loved art schoolteacher who responds to whatever is new in art with an endearing freshness and naivety. His retrospective exhibition at the Serpentine Gallery until March 6 looks like a show of the brightest pictures from the Young Contemporaries of the last 25 years. This means that although the work is superficially attractive there is little sign of development in terms of a maturing and deepening of experience as conveyed through paint. His large, colourful abstractions are pleasant enough, decorative even singly or in small quantities, but in large numbers, as here, the breezy eclecticism begins to look a little empty.

This year's New Contemporaries—the successor to the Young Contemporaries—is in two parts: painting and sculpture at the Royal Academy Diplôme Galleries; performance work at the Acme Gallery, 43, Shelton Street, Covent Garden, WC2. The painting and sculpture is a mishmash of tired styles and is hardly worth the fight through the crowded queue to get there. On its wall the Acme is showing work related to performances or conceptual art, and this looks much more interesting. Until Saturday (ring 240 3047 for details of performances and events).

At the ICA New Gallery is an exhibition of collaborative works by Dieter Roth and Richard Hamilton, done last summer while together in Spain. Both are artists of repute who produced some interesting work in the Sixties. The results of the collaboration is a trivial and repetitive exhibition, at best a misdirected joke which no doubt seemed better under the Spanish sun than in the cold light of a London February, at worst symptomatic of the loss of centre and confidence which has overtaken so many artists who were in their prime in the last decade. Hamilton's last exhibition, at the Serpentine Gallery, was of paintings of toilet paper and human turds in pretentious landscapes—another tediously extended joke. Dieter Roth has painted sausages. So naturally the results of their collaboration is the frequent appearance of the image of the sausage and sausage dog (shown with two heads to represent the two artists). The joke is taken further by exhibiting some of the paintings at dog's eye level and when the show is at Leigh, Greater Manchester, dogs were invited. The *Sunday Mirror* seized the joke (or the sausage), not surprisingly since the exhibition is sponsored by the Arts Council. As the opening of the London showing, Arts Council officials seemed upset because press photographers, including one from *The Times*, had brought along dogs to pose in front of the paintings. Yet this seems a fair enough response to the artists' gimmick.

As a device the dog has a history in art and literature. Ginter Grass used it brilliantly as a narrative device in *Dog Years*. Slobodan Tadić showed photographs of Edinburgh taken from a foot above the ground, as a "dog's eye" view of the city at a Yugoslavian exhibition organized by Richard Demarco at the Fruitmarket Gallery in 1975. Tadić's photographs worked because they showed familiar scenes from a new and unusual angle, forcing one to look at them freshly. Roth's and Hamilton's swatragam seems merely a device to seek publicity by two middle-aged artists who have lost any real sense of direction or drive. The paintings themselves are trivial and repetitive, narcissistic little jokes about painting (and dogs). "He eats me, I eat him, and then we see what is left," Roth describes the collaboration. The lack of meaning has been a characteristic of British artists of the last hundred years, running out of steam in the wake of events. The event which sank the Vorticists, the First World War, was a catastrophe in far more important ways than the torpedoing of modernist art styles. It's a *Terrific Thing*, the exhibition which I reviewed when it was at Norwich last autumn, contrasted the Vorticists with their English contemporaries, the Bloomsburys, the "Johnnies" (followers of Augustus John) and the Camden Town group. This was set in a well-contrived didactic framework of documentation of everyday and political life of the period. The exhibition is now at the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, until Sunday. Unfortunately there has apparently not been room to show the background material, so only the art is on view. A pity, because much of the original conception of the organizers of the exhibition at Norwich has been lost, although the still remains the confrontation between the different groups of artists.

Although superficially less revolutionary than the Vorticists, the paintings of the Camden Town group were none the less innovative in their depiction of modern life and their response (in angle, viewpoint and use of grey tone) to the influence of photography. Slicker later went on to work straight from photographs, as in his well-known painting of George V waving from a coach. There seems a direct link between these two pictures by Slicker and Richard Hamilton's paintings of the Sixties, like that of Ring Crosby and that of Mick Jagger and the art dealer Robert Fraser, handcuffed in the back of a police car while on a drugs charge. This was Hamilton's best period where he pushed on from where Slicker had pioneered.

If Oxford lacks the background material, it has the bonus of the reconstruction of the original version of Epstein's magnificent sculpture *The Rock Drill*, not seen at Norwich. Epstein smashed this version during the war and produced the truncated bronze (of which there is a cast in the Tate). The original figure, remade by the sculptor Ken Cook from photographs, straddles a real rock drill of the period, as it did when Epstein exhibited at the London Group

in 1914. It seems to have altered it because it appeared too much to exult in the technological brutality which had found its apotheosis in the First World War. He was never to produce such a powerful piece again, and his subsequent sculpture was at best uneven and at worst downright bad. At the ICA, in the corridor gallery, is an exhibition by two photographers, Robert Judges and Paddy Summerfield, *Town*

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After this agreeable high-wire act Debussy's *Sonata* provided the spiciest contrast, particularly when delivered with Ricci and Ogdon's refined decisiveness. Their interpretation was both chaste and passionate, supplying the best of the future, as is Liszt's *Grand Duo Concertante*, even if the latter, an extreme rarity at recitals, represents the taste of a bygone age. In fact it is a potpourri of Italian-styled melodies that undergirds Liszt's elaborate variations which this performance brought exhilaratingly to light.

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Terry Frost: M17, October 1962

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Paul Overy

Double
pleasure

Ricci/Ogdon
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Max Harrison

Great violinist though he is, London rarely hears Ruggiero Ricci, and it was a double pleasure that he had John Ogdon at the piano.

True, they started with Mozart's *Sonata K454*, not the sort of music best served by a partnership like this. Yet it demonstrated Mr. Ricci's warmth and purity of tone, his quite singular sense of movement, the supple response established between these two players, and augured excitingly for the rest of the evening.

Busoni's *Sonata No 1* (not the more familiar later work, also in E minor) is a post-Brahmsian piece full of youthful ardour and it received a matching performance. The slow movement, especially, is full of portents of the future, as is Liszt's *Grand Duo Concertante*, even if the latter, an extreme rarity at recitals, represents the taste of a bygone age. In fact it is a potpourri of Italian-styled melodies that undergirds Liszt's elaborate variations which this performance brought exhilaratingly to light.

After this agreeable high-wire act Debussy's *Sonata* provided the spiciest contrast, particularly when delivered with Ricci and Ogdon's refined decisiveness. Their interpretation was both chaste and passionate, supplying the best of the future, as is Liszt's *Grand Duo Concertante*, even if the latter, an extreme rarity at recitals, represents the taste of a bygone age. In fact it is a potpourri of Italian-styled melodies that undergirds Liszt's elaborate variations which this performance brought exhilaratingly to light.

Two artists to learn
from

Schwarzkopf/Parsons
Covent Garden

William Mann

Every young aspiring singer should make a point of attending a song recital by Elisabeth Schwarzkopf. Now, in an amazing St Martin's Summer of a long career, she has discovered a way to exercise and extend her artistry, illuminating music and teaching many a lesson in interpretation, without sacrificing her prestige on the altar of hubris.

In the Royal Opera House on Sunday she and Geoffrey Parsons, her pianist, surveyed a range of fine songs, not in the conventional chronological groups, but linking diverse songs through a common mood. On the one hand it makes an entertaining concert, by the diversity of choice and the real artistry of the performances; on the other hand it makes the listener aware of how several composers have approached a similar emotional situation. Connoisseurs of singing will also appreciate how brilliantly Schwarzkopf deploys her art, like the truest professional, so that the voice is never heard to disadvantage, the music always to advantage. In this enterprise Mr Parsons's canny, never subservient partnership commands high commendation: he knows how to play encouragingly, never submissively. Aspiring piano accompanists should be obliged to attend their recitals as well.

In the first half of the recital Schwarzkopf restrained volume, used her chest register discreetly and well, projected strongly without effort so that Schubert's "Der Einsame" came across clearly, in detail, unforced. Her voice was all golden as Wolf's "Fussreise", though not always ideally legato, her florid technique enchanting in the same composer's "Nixe Rinsess". The group from Wolf's *Italian Songbook* brought most illumination through subtleties of inflection, breathing, and vocal colouration. The characterization of each song, even those concerned with girls younger than her admired self, was instant and complete; only her distortion of vowels seemed regrettable, perhaps unnecessary. She lavished her audience with delectable encores. There was talk, a while ago, of her impending retirement: it is not yet due by a long way. We have too much still to learn from her.

March 26. Later in the year there will be a concert, also at Haddo House, where the programme includes Holst's Choral Symphony, Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* and Delius's *Sea-Drift*. The date is May 15.

Lesson in aristocratic portraiture

London debuts

As reported in *The Times* last Thursday, van Dyck's double portrait of two sisters, Lady Elizabeth Thimbleby and Dorothy, Viscountess Andover, is a splendid recent acquisition of the National Gallery. An outstanding example of his art during his residence in England as court painter to Charles I, it is the most welcome addition to the gallery's collection of portraits in the English period as well as represented in the portraits in the Royal Collection and in many English houses, the National Gallery has had only two products of his stay in England from 1632 onwards, the picture "in grates" of Charles I on horseback and a minor work, the portrait in Indian costume of William Feilding, 1st Earl of Denbigh. Imposing as the King's equestrian portrait is, there was evident room for such a rendering of the elegance of courtly female society as the picture of the two titled ladies now offers. It was painted about 1637, in which year Dorothy, the elder of the two sisters, was married to Viscount Andover, a winged Cupid presenting floral tribute no doubt to celebrate the occasion. The removal of van Dyck has shown the picture to be in perfect condition and van Dyck is seen to full advantage as a colourist in the contrasts and harmonies of cool and warm tones. The hands of the figures are in themselves an epitome of grace and refinement, the dresses are a richly patterned system of folds. As a lesson in aristocratic portraiture the work could not fail to impress a follower such as Peter Lely and it is not surprising that it appeared in the sale of Lely's effects in 1682. The sensitive reciprocal action between van Dyck's genius and the quality of the society to which he became attached was, however, beyond imitation. A main cause for satisfaction is the acquiescence of the type of double-portrait in which van Dyck excelled. But the Gallery stresses also the material advantage of the method of purchase. Coming from the famous collection of the Spencers of Althorp, the picture was bought from the present Lord Spencer for an undisclosed sum under private treaty arrangements. This arrangement means that sales of such privately owned works of art to national collections do not incur any liability as normally arises in the open market. Thus it seems everyone is satisfied, not excluding the Treasury. In the same way the Gallery in recent years has obtained for the nation paintings of importance by Velasquez and Rembrandt from other private collections to the ultimate benefit of the public. The van Dyck is now on public display in Room 21 of the National Gallery.

William Gaunt



Van Dyck: Lady Elizabeth Thimbleby and Dorothy, Viscountess Andover

LPO/Boult, Rattle
Festival Hall

Paul Griffiths

Sunday's concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra was divided between two conductors, Sir Adrian Boult and Simon Rattle, who might be related as great-grandfather to great-grandson. It was a contrast as the programme book tactfully put it, of "youth and experience", and the works played were such as to emphasize that Mr Rattle conducted Rachmaninov's first piano concerto, which dates in essentials from the composer's student years, while Sir Adrian chose a work written by a man at almost his own age, the ninth symphony of Vaughan Williams. Given the vast gulf between Rachmaninov's scoring and that of Vaughan Williams, it would be difficult to say how much the orchestra responded differently to their two conductors. Yet, certainly, Mr Rattle's part of the programme was full of youthful ebullience. He began with Berlioz's overture *Le Corsaire*, and showed in that a flair for exciting tempos, though the orchestra were not always precisely with him. In the concerto his drive was matched in the solo part by Peter Karlin. If the orchestra had seemed somewhat thin and brassy under Mr Rattle, they pulled out a fuller sound for Vaughan Williams and Sir Adrian. It was, however, no old man's vision of tranquillity or fulfilment, whether from composer or from conductor. Vaughan Williams's ninth symphony rises internally, at least in its central movements, and Sir Adrian was alert to every crude interruption, every brisk sarcasm in the score. At the end, however, came the strength of certainty, and a feeling of hard-won repose after so much storm and struggle.

Udine Art Restoration
Fund

The Udine Art Restoration Fund, founded last September with the aim of assisting in the rescue and emergency treatment of works of art damaged in the Friuli earthquakes, will benefit from two forthcoming events in London. On March 9 an exhibition of old master drawings presented by Adolphe Stern opens at the Covent Garden Gallery, 20 Russell Street, WC2, where the catalogues will be sold in aid of the fund, and on March 12 "Master Classes" are organizing a whole-day visit to see pictures by Sebastiano Ricci in London, taking in Burlington House, the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, Chiswick House and Hampton Court Palace. The guide will be Jeffery Daniels, the authority on Ricci: the fund will benefit by £10 per participant, and further details may be obtained from "Master Classes" (492 1705).

Extended to 13 March

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Great Yarmouth

Success will depend on own efforts

by Patrick O'Leary

Great Yarmouth has invested in the trouble of the town's economic future is based on its port, its beaches and industrial expansion.

These have served it well in the past. But an attempt to join the office boom coincided with the decline in demand two years ago and there is still plenty of space available at about £2 a sq ft annual rent. Another development, a shopping centre at the heart of the old town, is still gathering momentum.

You sense that the men who live in this part of eastern Norfolk realize they will have to rely on their own efforts, in the main, to see them through. Local government reorganization brought a string of villages to join the twin towns of Yarmouth and Gorleston, raising the total population of the borough to 75,000.

But the Norfolk Broads and rivers, and the inadequate road and rail links, impede access to the rest of the country and, to add to its isolation, Yarmouth lies on what was originally an island sandbank at the mouth of an estuary. Once this was the centre of Europe's herring industry, reaching its height just before the First World War. Now just two or three small boats go out, and if you must have haddock for breakfast, you may be eating an import from Aberdeen or even further away.

However, in the past few years ships with unfamiliar shapes have filled the Haven, a broad stretch of the river Yare which runs for two to three miles parallel to the sea before swinging at right angles to form the harbour mouth. This is at the southern end of what became the Yarmouth peninsula, after the northern route to the sea near Caister silted up.

Three roll-on, roll-off ships shuttle daily to and from The Hague's port of Scheveningen. Above all, the North Sea's harvest of natural gas and oil made Yarmouth a boom town well before similar prosperity reached Aberdeen. Out of sight of the coast offshore rigs and platforms stretch from the latitude of the Yare to that of the Humber.

Gas is piped ashore at Bacton in Norfolk, and at terminals in Lincolnshire. Many firms serving this new industry are based in the Great Yarmouth district, supplying everything from rigs to meals for oil drillers. Helicopters wait in and out

of North Denes airfield, while taxis take Texans to Heathrow airport or Aberdeen.

Cigar smoke and American accents hung in the air at my hotel on the waterfront, and the porter had more *Herald Tribune* than *Daily Telegraph*. The transatlantic influence seemed to have inflated prices, but to have had a good effect on the strength of the coffee and the quality of the service. I wonder what the visitors make of one promenade attraction, billed as Danny Arnold's Wild West Cowtown, USA.

Apart from port-based commerce, which includes a long history of timber trading with the Baltic, local industry relies heavily on light engineering, and on processing food. This is a natural sequel to being the market town for the produce of the rich, low-lying fields of East Anglia.

To some extent, the area's three main activities are segregated. Wharves line both sides of the Yare, factories are grouped mainly in the South Denes at the end of the Yarmouth peninsula, and at Harrey, in Gorleston, while holidaymakers have the run of some 15 miles of sandy beaches.

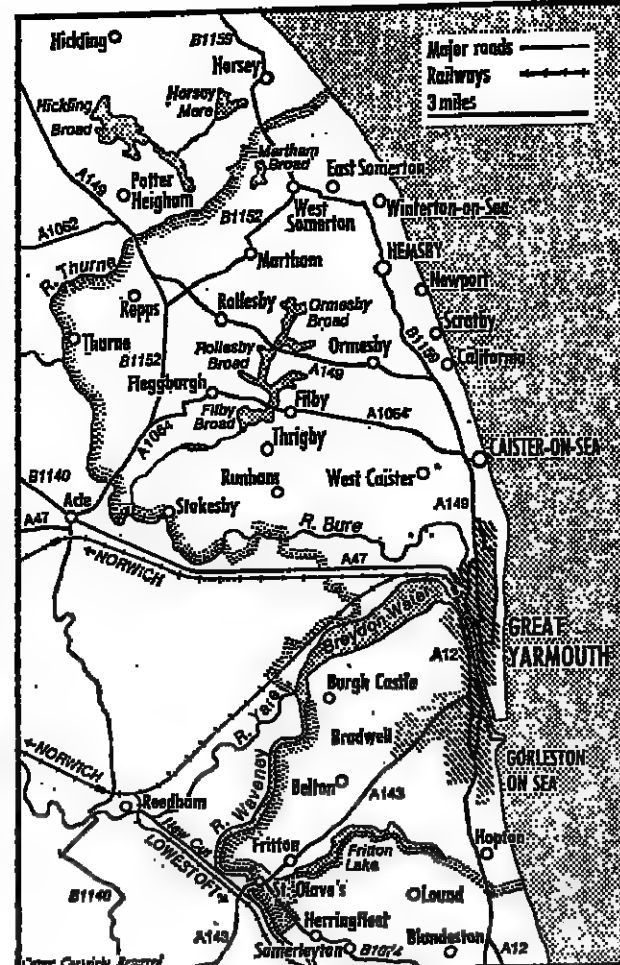
Nevertheless, there is friction. "We are treated like pin money part-timers instead of as the important industry we really are," the hoteliers grumble. "We have had to fight to keep juggernauts off the front."

The holiday season lasts only 18 weeks, port users retort. "We provide jobs all the year round." The graceful monument to Norfolk-born Nelson, which was erected nearly a quarter of a century before the one in Trafalgar Square, rises 144ft. But it is dwarfed by the 360ft chimney of the postwar power station.

Nelson sailed to many of his victories from the safe, almost timeless Haven of Yarmouth, but the district's naval history goes back to Roman days. Then Burg Castle in the south, and Caister Castle to the north were separated by six miles of water rather than fields and towns.

Yarmouth fishermen played leading roles in the Battle of Sluys in 1340, and as a reward Edward III allowed the town to have the royal arms with its own. This armorial oddity, showing the forequarters of three lions joined to the tails of three, is still used.

In the last war the Haven was a front-line mine-sweeper base, and received



attention from the Luftwaffe. Hitler did most of our slum clearance for us", a resident said, "and with little loss of life."

There is still resentment that successive governments did little to help Yarmouth to get on its feet again after the war, or to ease problems caused by the rapid decline of the herring industry. A campaign has begun to seek development area status for East Anglia, which would mean financial aid for firms establishing new factories.

But this, like the need to improve cross-country roads serving the coast, seems unlikely to find favour with Whitehall in the present national economic situation. One bridge links Yarmouth to Gorleston, and this has to be raised and lowered several hundred times a year to allow ships to pass through the port on their way to Norwich. It becomes a bottleneck in summer and taxmen often find it quicker to offload their fares at the open-boat ferry across the Yare, and radio for a colleague to pick them up on the other bank.

That is the time of year when the population more than doubles, with 90,000 beds available in hotels, flats, boarding houses, chalets and caravans, without adding the bunks in the cruises on the Broads. For many years the beds have been filled mainly by hard-working men and women from the Midlands and the North.

Formerly, when autumn came, Scots fisher girls arrived to gut and pack the herring in barrels of salt. Now the late season visitors are pensioners taking advantage of lower rates. On a promenade which, with its two piers, seemed designed to appeal to the cheerful, free-spirited shop floor, it was a surprise to find a handsome Victorian pub displaying a plaque recording that Edward VII, when Prince of Wales, stayed there eight times between 1872 and 1899. Shadingfield Lodge was a private villa then.

The royal visits were ostensibly to inspect the Prince of Wales Own Norfolk Artillery. But it is said that Lady Langtry used to stay at the Royal Hotel, a few steps away, when appearing at a local theatre.

The economy of Great Yarmouth, like the Norfolk town itself, was built on sand, a suspect foundation. The golden sand helped to make it a major holiday resort, and the river Yare that bisects the beaches as it flows into the North Sea enabled a port to thrive and the borough became the world's main herring fishery centre.

The trouble was that both the seaside popularity and the herring fishing were seasonal, one in summer and the other autumn, so this ancient borough suffered from a fluctuating employment pattern. This was aggravated around 1960 when the fishing petered out, mainly because of over-intensive crawling by foreign boats, and today not a single fish is landed on wharves where over the years countless millions of "silver darlings" were "craned out" from hundreds of local and Scots drifters.

Fortunately prolonged efforts to give Great Yarmouth a broader and more diverse industrial base have proved successful to an extent, and factories that moved in allowed residents to work year-round. The loss of the fishing was a severe blow, but in 1964 the new harvest of the sea—offshore oil and natural gas—brought salvation and compensation.

There were more permanent jobs, the harbour was unexpectedly reactivated, and the economy was on a firmer footing than it had ever been. But despite the injection of manufacturing industry and Great Yarmouth's new role as the first North Sea project base, there remains an imbalance that needs remedying and the campaign to attract newcomers offering work continues.

Those companies that have transferred to Great Yarmouth must have done so because of its distinct advantages: good sites, port with 24-hour accessibility, proximity to Europe (closer to Rotterdam than to London), reliability and adaptability of local labour with its excellent industrial relations record, rich agricultural hinterland, the borough council's key-worker housing scheme, the comparative cheapness of private homes, and the overall pleasantness of being in an area geared to holiday pursuits and on the fringe of the Norfolk Broads.

Those entries on the credit side have outweighed the disadvantages that, despite the town's obvious problems, it is not labelled a development area. Those industrialists who have chosen to set up there have done so without the help and incentives given to places in scheduled development areas. They have also decided that Great Yarmouth's attractions out-

weigh the fact that it is not well served by roads, either internal or linking with regions like the Midlands and North.

Last month a plan of significance was mooted. If it wins Whitehall support, it will provide benefits for industrialists moving to the area. For the Association of Industrial Development Officers has decided to lobby for East Anglia to be deemed a development area and hence more attractive to potential new arrivals.

According to the association's chief executive, Mr John Kilip, "East Anglia would be a boom area if it was redesignated a development area". He claimed that East Anglia was bottom of the "industrial inquiry" table, and that the interest of inquirers evaporated when they learnt it was not a development area.

As for the main routes to and from Great Yarmouth, these are beyond the borough's control, and all it can do is press for improvements like straightening and doubling of roads, including the A47 (King's Lynn). It is surviving like other East Anglian ports for the building as a trunk road of the "missing link"—an A1-M1 link—the so-called "trade route to Europe", in the southern Midlands.

Disregarding the holiday industry, the biggest employment group is food processing. It includes quick-freezing, canning, potato crisps, confectionery, baking, pasta, maling and fish curing. Up to 4,500 people work in the industry. Making electronic components and moulded pulp products like egg trays are also important sources of employment.

Others include the oil-fired power station, shipbuilding and repair, timber-importing, printing, bakery, plastic signs, furniture, engineering, bandage-weaving, sacks, cardboard boxes, and leisure and workers' clothing.

There are about 200 firms servicing and supporting North Sea activity with a 3,500-strong payroll (about 10 per cent of the area's total) and that figure could reach 5,000 if it takes into account employees administered from the town.

In the 1970s the privately developed Harrey industrial estate has grown from grazing marshes into 100 acres housing 40 firms with 900 employees at a cost of about £3m. Although Harrey is not as labour-intensive as Great Yarmouth Borough Council hoped it might be, and at one time there was disappointment that instead of attracting newcomers it was merely accommodating local firms moving into custom-built premises, the developers rightly regard it as a success story.

Another private enterprise venture, the Capton Hall estate, is planned next door. Inquiries have been received from interested companies. Despite the economic gloom and financial retrenchment there is some optimism in the Great Yarmouth ozone. For instance, the biggest employer—Birds Eye Foods—plans to spend £2.3m on improving its beefburger and meat produc-

Development area mooted to welcome industry

by Julian Brooks

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Bernard Levin

Here is a suitably positive report on the State of the Nation

Last week's suggestion by Mr Moss Evans, of the TGWU, that the newspapers in this country should operate under licence (Mr David Astor, and one or two people even nearer to this typewriter, might be pardoned for believing that Mr Evans's interesting proposal has already been put into effect) was not the only item worthy of comment that emerged from the one-day conference of trade union representatives at which it was made. Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, was no less dissatisfied with the way the newspapers report trade union affairs, though he did not commit himself to support of Mr Evans. Instead, he proposed that the newspapers and broadcasting organizations should go in for "more positive" reporting of industrial affairs.

His suggestion, as you may imagine, struck a sympathetic chord in me. I have often felt that the work and achievements of our trades unions are not properly reported, but I have frequently wondered what I could do to help change so unsatisfactory a state of affairs.

Of course, Mr Moss Evans's advocacy of a system of licences, within the terms of which the press would be obliged to operate, would, if it carried the day, solve the problem automatically, for whatever else such licences might prescribe or enjoin, there would hardly be any point in instituting the arrangements at all if there were no provision making it

a breach of the licensing terms, leading to the immediate revocation of the permission to publish, to speak disrespectfully of—to take a figure wholly at random—the successor to Mr Jack Jones as General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union. It is all very well for this newspaper to publish, as it did on Saturday last, a leading article condemning Mr Evans's modest proposal on, as far as I could gather, no better ground than that the licensing of the press had been abolished in 1695 and that that was a very long time ago. It is easy to criticize; but what constructive proposals did the leading article contain for meeting Mr Evans's complaint? None, I fear.

That charge—of pulling down without also building up—can at any rate not be levelled at me. Helpful as ever, I wish today to put forward an account of various trade union matters which will, I hope, serve a triple purpose: to make amends for the unhelpful tone of the leading article I have mentioned, to ensure that when the licences are being given out under the *lex evansensis*, I shall be sure to get one, and above all to meet Mr Murray's request for a more positive reporting of trade unions and their activities. Should my approach find favour, I can assure him of my willingness to produce as much more as may be required, to match my sample.

An account of the present troubles at British Leyland, for instance, would go like this:

Workers at all British Leyland factories, acting entirely on their own initiative, have put into operation a brilliant scheme for avoiding the

danger—dreaded by all wise and far-sighted workers—of over-production. (There is, of course, no over-production at all at British Leyland, a fact which only emphasizes the foresight of the car-workers, who are clearly determined not to risk what they were told, interviewed at his home today, Mr Smith said that he was enormously touched by the generous action of his former colleagues: it was true that he did not know what he and his family would live on, and that he had not been asked whether he wished to give up work, but those were small matters compared to the great strength of his faith in human nature that the experience had given him.)

Then again, it is well known—or at least it will be when Mr Murray's positive reporting and Mr Evans's licence-system are both the rule—that the number of strikes in this country has not just fallen; it has fallen almost to zero. A "positive" account of an unfortunate incident at one of the few remaining industrial disputes might go like this:

When pickets, representing the true interests of the entire workforce, were maintaining a vigil outside the premises of Messrs Blenkinsop and Trepengeldier (manufacturers of square bicycle-wheels), they were approached by a group of workers—some 25 per cent of the total number of employees—who, misled by negative reporting, were not understanding that they would be better off on strike, and thus insisted on working. Several pickets stepped forward to explain, politely and reasonably, the true state of affairs, ignoring reason altogether, proceeded to assault (with their heads) a number of iron bars and while the pickets just happened to be holding

As for the way in which the leaders of the great trades union movement are described, and their activities chronicled, a complete definition of "negative reporting" could be deduced from it. How much better the state of affairs will be when positive reporting, reinforced by licences, rules the day! We may then expect this sort of thing, for instance:

The great and good Mr Len Murray, statesmanlike General Secretary of the wise, moderate, forward-looking and above all innovative—TUC, made a speech—may, an oration—today. Relying, by his keen eye, his eloquent tongue and his upright bearing, his 54 years, he alternately roused his hearers to unheard-of heights of enthusiasm with the passion of his oratory and brought tears gushing to their eyes with the moving and sombre tones he was equally adept at producing, as he denounced—no, not denounced, for a man of Mr Murray's stature, magnanimity and character would never denounce his fellow-men, to let us say understandingly and sorrowfully felt obliged to criticize constructively—those who suggested that the trades union movement could possibly be improved in any way.

I hope that is the kind of thing Mr Murray is thinking of, and that it is "positive" enough to meet his exacting standards. "Report me, and you are as good as dead," was Hamlet's last request, and I think I can say that for Mr Murray. Perhaps, in return, he could draw Mr Moss Evans's attention to what I have written, and ask him to send the licence to me c/o *The Times*.

As for the way in which the leaders of the great trades union movement are described, and their activities chronicled, a complete definition of "negative reporting" could be deduced from it. How much better the state of affairs will be when positive reporting, reinforced by licences, rules the day! We may then expect this sort of thing, for instance:

The great and good Mr Len Murray, statesmanlike General Secretary of the wise, moderate, forward-looking and above all innovative—TUC, made a speech—may, an oration—today. Relying, by his keen eye, his eloquent tongue and his upright bearing, his 54 years, he alternately roused his hearers to unheard-of heights of enthusiasm with the passion of his oratory and brought tears gushing to their eyes with the moving and sombre tones he was equally adept at producing, as he denounced—no, not denounced, for a man of Mr Murray's stature, magnanimity and character would never denounce his fellow-men, to let us say understandingly and sorrowfully felt obliged to criticize constructively—those who suggested that the trades union movement could possibly be improved in any way.

I hope that is the kind of thing Mr Murray is thinking of, and that it is "positive" enough to meet his exacting standards. "Report me, and you are as good as dead," was Hamlet's last request, and I think I can say that for Mr Murray. Perhaps, in return, he could draw Mr Moss Evans's attention to what I have written, and ask him to send the licence to me c/o *The Times*.

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Shifting ground in the centre puts moderation out on a limb

I regret that the occasion for congratulating Mr John Mackintosh on his accession to a political science chair at Edinburgh should have coincided with an article in *The Times*, January 24, disfigured by anti-intellectualism and by blanket denunciation of dissent from consensus politics.

It is not a question of whether I dislike being called "extreme": it is that the attribution of extremism to analysis, as distinct from proposed policies, has helped create a climate which has deterred the analytical thinking of our situation calls for.

After all—as John Mackintosh himself recognizes—the question is not whether post-war consensus measures (when both parties seemed to compete for the Centre) failed, but why they failed. I believe that the search for the Centre led us to where we are now.

For the Centre was a moving, not a fixed, point—always to the left of the Conservative Party, related to a point in the Labour Party between its own centre and left. The Labour left always pulled its party further left from where its internal status quo was at the time, until the party reached a new accommodation. This, in the end, caused the middle point between the two parties to shift to the left.

The Conservatives, in order to be "moderate", centrist, then felt obliged to move towards Labour to gain the middle ground; Labour's left then pulled leftward and the whole procedure began again.

It is pointless, therefore, for John Mackintosh to regret the leftward trend inside the Labour Party. His, and the Conservative middle-ground, fixation was bound to cause the Labour Party to move leftward. Nor can he logically claim that "if the state provides suitable conditions, the mixed economy will prosper", when by his own admission he does not really know what is wrong with the national economy.

... probably the answers lie deeper in British society. The real task is for all sectors of society to come to some conclusion about the nature of these problems and to decide

Judging by results

He cannot call for a thorough-going reconsideration of our society and yet denounce as extreme any who dare raise questions. The common aspirations which we share—a free responsible constructive national society—are one thing. But policy packages created at one time or another to further their achievement—Beveridge, Keynes, social contract—must not be regarded as sacred; this could only lead to fossilization.

The welfare state must be judged by results, not by aspirations. An erstwhile enthusiast for ever-increasing state welfare, I cannot say that the results are so good that nothing needs changing. We, or many of us, have confused the need for provision with the need for the state to provide, and the results are disappointing—not only to Tories.

Nor can it be extreme to reassess the mixed economy. Are its theoretical foundations really sound? What are the criteria for the mixture? Surely we are justified in appraising nationalization's effect on the economy in the light of a generation's experience. It has created vast monopolies with almost unlimited access to public money, able to write off losses and investments and to draw subsidies and resources; geared, thanks to immunity from bankruptcy, to serve the interests of its workers and shopkeepers rather than those of the public. Is it extremist to seek ways to change this and to lighten the cumulative burden on the rest of the economy?

John Mackintosh is right in observing "the lack of any

convincing, popular def or justification of our economic system". Th been little systematic p tion of the immensely moral and material c the liberal-conservative within a framework of ally updated law, age socialist statist cusad twentieth century.

As Adam Smith a Schumpeter warned very successes of c have created conditio have blighted the zeal confidence of the we job-creators. But the have certainly made worse by denigrating "fit motive" and react generations of young that it is more "so distribute than to c spend than to earn. It been more successful crediting "capitalism" finding a better substiti This illustrates the of "under" "manerae between punitive against capitalism an to allow the system better at the expense onward march of social

Causing the failures

So I cannot agree a Mackintosh that econ are has caused, as h our ideological differ is rather the econo human fallacies unde then political conve caused our economic John Mackintosh enviously to the assumptions of Mr C Mr Ford and of Herr and Herr

But it is not just th of assumptions that t too have had consens the quality and realis assumptions shared i ver.

The two pairs of to whom John M refers, and the answers he assumptions. The A accept—with back what we might call the conservative philosop three major German p explicitly accept the cause—what they "social" market; phi Germany's policies; th those associated wit Friedman, whom John tash denigrates, not Keynesians.

Indeed, John Ma flows, and so does West Germany are "extreme"—to use l ulary—in their belie market order. No, co fine and desirable, b it is based on realist and policies.

John Mackinto examines the econo social philosophy of us whom he calls right-wing populists philosophy—he would based on an honest a lem from expan wholly true to equa spurious geometrical with the zealous of the left. They are impr their old, out-dated believing the more the more absurd and productive the results

The readiness to li experience is relat within the Conserva Many Conservative were infected by na list dependence on some of these of us have drawn conclus experience that have place less reliance solutions and more on the state's mon budgetary performa distinctions cannot rarely portrayed by s as "left" and "moderate" and "a or "reformer" as reformer."

We all share the it for increa being. Re-examination is necessary. Epithet deter us.

Sir Keith
The author is Conser for Leeds North-East.
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Pouring in Arab millions to reclaim the desert

For the first time the Arab countries can afford to exploit for agricultural purposes some immense tracts of semi-arid land between the deserts of North Africa and the fertile rain belts. Oil money from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States, Egyptian manpower and technical skills and Sudanese land is being married in a union that may prove more powerful than any forged as a military alliance.

Over the next 10 years this partnership will spend £2.75 billion to replace more than 40 per cent of food imports in the Middle East of cereals, meat, fruit and vegetables—plus cotton by irrigation schemes along the Nile valley.

Optimism about this programme has to be tempered by other disturbing events, causing thousands of acres of land to be lost each year in areas where some sixty million nomads and subsistence farmers are faced with rapidly increasing soil erosion.

The catastrophe is not confined to the Sudan, where two million people are at risk out of a total population of 17 million. But the amount of land and the number of animals exposed to a slow death from desertification is higher than in any other zone.

An ugly word, desertification, has been coined to describe the relentless creep of the desert into the semi-arid regions. Along one frontier of 1,200 kilometres where the desert and savanna meet in central Sudan, encroachment is advancing at five to six kilometres a year.

One group of people under threat are the inhabitants of El Bashiri, a beautiful village on an oasis that waters probably 250,000 animals throughout a year. Twenty years ago the infertile Saharan sand was 150 kilometres away to the north. Now a semi-circle of gleaming dunes are poised on the edge like a giant's hand wave about to break over the beach. The circumstances at El Bashiri are repeated at other precious oases throughout this part of the country.

Although the nature and causes of soil erosion and desert encroachment vary widely, one common factor is the intensive cultivation and grazing by an increasing population—which is keeping larger herds of animals, made possible by the introduction of veterinary medicine services, in nomadic areas.

The effects of encroachment are disastrous. Food production continues to decline because of soil deterioration of land buried beneath sand. Wooded regions, supporting particularly the *Acacia senegal* from which the world's main supply of gum arabic is obtained, have been turned into barren wastes in the cutting of wood for fuel and charcoal. *Acacia* shrubs and the like which grew on the edge of Khartoum are not to be found within 100 kilometres of the city.

The contribution to soil erosion by overcutting of trees in the Sudan also shows why the troubles are not exclusively those of the Third World. A survey of the use of wood and charcoal has been completed by Mrs Turi Hammer Digernes, a young Norwegian geography research student, who lived for six months in the remote town of Barra.

Giving a preliminary account at the end of her stay, Mrs Digernes explained last week how the fuel supplies of these rural and nomadic people had also suffered from the price rises of oil over the past three years. As supplies of bottled gas and kerosene rose, townspeople returned increasingly to charcoal and wood.

Creating green belts

In spite of legislation passed by the Sudanese Government on the advice of the National Council for Research forbidding the cutting of young trees, the practice continues with subsequent disastrous erosion.

Action to combat these effects on the edge of large conurbations like Tokar, Khartoum, Omdurman, Khartoum, El Obeid and Nadi, has been taken by the Sudanese National Council for Research creating the equivalent of green belts around them. These and other measures adopted for soil conservation alleviated some of the hardship of the disastrous droughts of 1969 and 1972 that caused such tragedy in the Sahelian countries of West Africa and in Ethiopia.

The Sudan forms part of that arid and semi-arid belt which suffered so greatly, and the seasonal drought wrought a high toll.

At the time of the Sahel drought Arab, African and Indian members of the United

Nations environment and development programmes accepted suggestions for collaboration to stop the creeping deserts of the world—not just the Sahara. The knowledge gained so far will be pooled at a UN conference in Nairobi in August to assess the extent of change caused by climatic fluctuations, the impact of human activity, and what technology can be adopted to help people who live in these regions without creating irreversible ecological damage.

A number of countries have already prepared proposals of the development projects that could show how to stop the advance of the desert. One from the Sudanese National Council for Research would cost about £18 million. It covers nine projects to fix sand dunes threatening water supplies and fertile districts, to conserve water, to reseed and reclaim marginal lands over which layers of sand are gradually building, and to introduce new ideas for crop rotation and grazing patterns for nomads.

The types of shrubs and plants to stabilize sand dunes have been tested on the shifting sands round El Bashiri. Outlining this work Sayed Wadi Habbashi, president of the National Council for Research, stressed that desert encroachment was largely a man-made phenomenon caused by such land misuse pressures as overgrazing, irrational cultivation, wood cutting, uprooting of shrubs and lowering of water tables from increased animal herds.

Cultivation in marginal areas was especially dangerous and perhaps the major contributor to desert creep. When dry years follow a year of plentiful cultivated soil is in danger of being swept away as fine silt by the prevailing winds.

Sayed Habbashi indicated some of the obvious sociological difficulties in planning grazing policies that altered behaviour patterns which had persisted for hundreds of generations. Possible remedies varied between countries and regions.

In the Sudan, for example, the nomads are not the poorest group in the community. Indeed the most successful ones carry out large scale cultivation on a permanent base from which a seasonal migration in search of water and pasture is made by a few people.

Pearce Wright
Science Correspondent

New paint and plaster can't stop devolution being dull

Devolution has become a dull word even in Scotland. Does it really convey the most mighty constitutional change since 1707?

It is daunting for anyone attempting to describe this great unbacking of nations that whatever scheme or permutation of schemes has been proposed, the general reactions appear at best peevish or at worst angrily hostile. Surely the essential quality which any devolution scheme should have is a foundation of agreement and cooperation, yet both seem to be absent in the current debate.

Few politicians speak with ringing confidence about their propositions and the Bill which the Labour government has been an exterriminator of the Scottish National Party, seems now to be emulating the Lusitania on its last voyage.

None the less new paint and plaster are being applied to the Royal High School, Edinburgh, where Scottish Assembly men hope to meet next year. One civil servant thought the building was important enough to be no worse for a refurbishing whatever happened to devolution. Another thought that the very words Scottish assembly made him reach for his revolver.

For Scots there is a strong sense of *déjà vu* about the debate, a feeling of walking down a long and well-trampled road as all the argument and what did the Independent Labour Party actually do about this thought? There is also the timing of the Labour Party's decision in the devolution field.

The fact that Keir Hardie (1856-1915) first thought of the idea is really not enough. What did the Independent Labour Party actually do about this thought? There is also the timing of the Labour Party's decision in the devolution field.

It has coincided with the sharp rise in popularity of the Scottish National Party when Labour seats in West of Scotland would seem the next logical victims in the sweeping progress of the SNP; seats upon which the Labour Government relies heavily to remain in power.

The sudden curcopia of aid, assurance and parliamentary attention which the Government have emptied in Scotland may be a coincidence but sceptics are unimpressed and how did the voters of Scotland react to this burst of magnificence? More of them than ever voted for the SNP, not because they had any sympathy for the basic SNP platform of independence, but because in the particular political-economic balance of the moment, with North Sea oil

'For Scots there is a strong sense of déjà vu... a feeling of walking down a long and well-trampled road'

ively acknowledged and more direct control over the country's affairs to be vested in Scotland. This does not ignore the considerable autonomy already held by St Andrew's House or that local authorities such as Strathclyde directly control huge budgets.

According to many impartial observers, the weakness of the Government's position is that their assurances on devolution have not run true and the whole exercise has about it a strong whiff not only of expediency but of shifting principle.

The debate has not satisfactorily indicated how Scotland can justify having the same over-representation at Westminster after the Assembly has been set up or how civil servants with loyalties critically divided between Assembly and Scottish Office will operate efficiently.

Even more crucial, should the assembly achieve the same singular unpopularity as Scotland's new local government structure, how will the people artists be prevented from bundling the country further down the road towards what nearly 80 per cent of Scots believe would be unbeneficial independence? Finally, and poignantly, how inadequate is the SNP's delicate and complicated matter with such a dull and unattractive sounding word.

Ronald Faux

adding credibility to nationalism and recession making the Labour Party unattractive, this was the nearest way of achieving more for Scotland and emphasizing a Scottish identity.

Strong support for the Government's devolution Bill north of the border revealed in the latest opinion poll could be an extension of this feeling. Many Scots support the measure not because they agree with it—they may even think it a bad Bill—but in the hope that it will eventually give a more positive hold in the real reins which control Scotland.

Others, Scots, some government ministers perhaps among them, believe one of the most useful functions of a Scottish assembly will be to increase the public accountability of the Scottish Office and that if devolution does not make this it would be a worthwhile exercise.

Mr Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, admitted in the Commons last December that no person who had held the post of Secretary of State would seem the next logical victims in the sweeping progress of the SNP; seats upon which the Labour Government relies heavily to remain in power.

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as wandering cows in the quiet Lhasa streets, and Chinese monks, in barefaced and hydroelectric power stations in the rural areas.

Greene was also able to film the few hundred monks who opted to stay in their monasteries after the Chinese takeover in 1959, and the Dalai Lama's fabulously decorated staterooms and prayer throne, undisturbed and empty in the village-like capital.

There is a lot of gold in Tibet, much of it quarter of an inch thick on temple roofs. It was all brought in on the backs of yaks, which are revealed in the film as stately black cattle with scrawny necks and big noses, incessantly grunting instead of mooing.

After the film was shown Greene, who has also filmed in China and North Vietnam, said: "We had the idea of the old Tibet as a place run by holy men and filled with peaceful people. It was not like that at all. The social changes that are taking place now make this the most exciting and heartwarming film I have ever taken."

Tibet is certainly a strange place, where the men wear brown trilly hats and tea is drunk with butter and salt. Only a few decades ago the wheel was unknown there save for purposes of prayer; now there are Chinese cars and buses as well

noble leader curses his betrayal by a follower he believed to be totally loyal.

To end his programme, he might return to the closing scene of *The Flying Dutchman*, in which the hero finds eternal rest with a woman who has given up her life for him (although I doubt that Wagner visualized a final scene in which the two of them retired to the Scillies and took the phone off the hook).

Inside Tibet
For 15 years only five Westerners set foot in Tibet. Last summer, Fell Greene and his family increased the number to eight, and brought back a film which gives the rest of us a first chance to see the secret world which provided inspiration for *Lost Horizon* and *Shangri-la*.

Tibet is certainly a strange place, where the men wear brown trilly hats and tea is drunk with butter and salt. Only a few decades ago the wheel was unknown there save for purposes of prayer; now there are Chinese cars and buses as well

Surely the fundamental weakness of Calbraith and Friedman is that one understands what they say



acquiring their knowledge of London to qualify with the Public Carriage Office as licensed taxi drivers. Was the Sex Discrimination Act, then, putting paid to the male monopoly of plying for hire?

Actually, no. There has, the carriage office say, never been any ban on women cabbies. Indeed, there are a dozen or

so "out in the stick 63 "yellow badge" areas which start riddles from the cent City.

To qualify for a yellow badge, a cabbie must have a two-mile base, or knowledge of central reach the main railway if required. The gr needed to drive in London is far more d obtain, and so far, as an examiner, no w stayed the course.

"We have four w for the green badge at the moment. Two c about half way thr they are further a Another nine men they should qualify the women who hav to drive in the subu have tended to drop quickly. They find i savoury job at time quires a lot of stam!

Royal Dutch Shell, as scholarship in geolo physics in Nature. "Candidates should n than 2 years of age, ally fit to work abou sumably that mean nappy rash.

From Mr. For... (Lancet). Sir. The Educated permit th collective either a prompts i of your i of the rel It has here to plural re the domi noun is "the here the gae" were all There is tendency, half, to a all "colle" "cove" "down" "document" "advertis" "the cabl" "agreed" "particular" "the collect" "the inde" "mentary" "a section" "When a declared" "The En from its able to si

The Times Diary

Getting our teeth into their snails

One of the more obvious consequences of being part of Europe is that our shops are full of funny foreign food. One of France's biggest small canners is this week making a determined bid to introduce the English housewife to the delights of the escargot. Yesterday the firm set up a stall in the food hall of Selfridge's in Oxford Street and pressed freshly-cooked samples on the unsuspecting Monday morning shoppers. The results were not encouraging.

By lunchtime the stall, manned by women suitably attired in red, white and blue dresses, had handed out 14 dozen escargots swimming in parsley and garlic butter, receiving in return a picture gallery of grimaces, even from those passers-by who valiantly insisted how nice they were. They had actually sold only seven tins.

"Delicious," said a furchad woman, picking her teeth and looking frankly for a glass of white or other suitable mouthwash. "Oh, yes, I'll say," exclaimed a young man,

taking one tiny bite and miraculously managing to spit it straight back into its shell. "Aargh," said a young boy, devoutly wishing he could have an ice cream instead. "Oh, this is good," said a middle-aged woman, licking the last vestiges of sauce from the shell while resolutely refusing to buy any more.

Francois Fabing, who runs the small cannery with his father in deepest Champagne, then revealed the awful secret of the French snail; there are so few left that the traditional escargot now comes from Poland, Austria or Yugoslavia. The old-fashioned Burgundy snail, *hélix pomatia*, has grown scarce in its native country, but is being intensively farmed in eastern Europe.

"Some people are also importing the snails from China, but they are not good; they are a different type. Perhaps in two years' time it is forbidden to make trade with the Chinese snails; they are dangerous for the human consumption," Fabing said ominously. The east European snails

come to France for processing. They are fed salt, then killed in boiling water, by which time they are too weak to complain. Next, they are pulled from their shells and have their rear ends cut off, before being cooked again in champagne and herbs. "The snail has the small nervous system and does not feel a thing," said the snail baron reassuringly.

Fabing, whose firm cans 300 tonnes of snails a year, thinks the British market is increasing by 20 per cent annually. To encourage the British housewife, he has produced a helpful leaflet with two small recipes, which with a little effort can be easily understood. For example: "Endly, introduce the snails one by one in their shells, and furnish in every one of them a little bit of this sauce." Impertinently delicious, no doubt.

In tune

Sir Harold Wilson will have an opportunity to set in perspective the events of recent weeks when he broadcasts next Saturday on the BBC Radio 3 programme *Man of Action*. Through the music he selects, Sir Harold should be able to convey a moving picture of the triumphs and tribulations of his life.

Apart from an enthusiasm for Gilbert and Sullivan, though,

he is not known as a classical buff, and my colleague Martin Luckhurst thought it would be helpful to put forward a few suggestions:

To establish his credentials as a man of action, Sir Harold could start with Richard Strauss's tone poem *A Hero's Life*: there are some stirring passages here about the hero's battles, and there is also a section depicting The Hero's Helpmate, describing her as behaving "insolently", "soothingly", "angrily" and "scoldingly".

Then, to commemorate one of his achievements in office—the Social Contract—Haydn's Symphony No 96 "The Miracle".

Sir Harold's departure from Downing Street inevitably suggests Mozart's comic opera *The Escape from the Seraglio*. His life since then has been like that of Wagner's *Flying Dutchman*, in which the great steersman is doomed to sail forever the seas of endless exposure, buffeted by unremitting storms.

No doubt Sir Harold will want to hit back at his detractors, perhaps with an aria from Verdi's *Otello*, in which the

Tessa Gordon photographed this sign in Market Harborough, where the traders are anxious that their customers should not get cold feet.

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BITLARY
ANDY DEAN
Career in Holl...

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Industrial sector shows economy strong growth last quarter

Westlake
The economy grew in the fourth quarter after stagnating in the third, according to government figures, yesterday. But, with the rate of inflation at about 1 per cent, the 7.5 and 1976, unemployment seems certain to go on in economic activity in the last quarter of 1976. The rate of growth in the last quarter was 1.1 per cent, while in the third quarter it was 0.8 per cent. The rate of growth in the last quarter was 1.1 per cent, while in the third quarter it was 0.8 per cent.

The percentage of the workforce unemployed in Britain, excluding school leavers, rose from 4.9 to 5.5 per cent between December 1975 and December 1976 (the focus for output being from the mid-points of the two years).

On this basis, the Government's job-preserving and job-creating programmes would not seem to have contributed much to the employment position, although several other factors have also been at work during this recession. For example, productivity seems to have shown an exceptional fall for two years as job-sharing activities have increased.

On the other hand, more of the people made jobs are now believed to be registering for unemployment benefit, while the labour force itself is expanding rather faster than has been the case in the past for demographic reasons. This may mean that the economy would have to expand at closer to 4 per cent a year to prevent the total jobless figures from going up.

The Treasury is now forecasting that the gross domestic product will rise by about 2 per cent between the second halves of 1976 and 1977, or 3 per cent if the export performance improves to be greater than expected.

However, the evidence is that export growth is still sluggish and the other elements of demand are not expected to contribute much towards growth in the coming months.

As a result, the level of growth seen in the fourth quarter of last year does not seem likely to continue, as would be necessary if unemployment was to be arrested.

Mr R. J. Sweeney, president of Murphy Oil, one of the partners in the Ninian offshore development, has caused a flutter among the various companies involved in the development of the oilfield with his statement that the central concrete platform might not be ready for float-out this year.

Chevron, which is responsible for design, construction and positioning of the platforms, said yesterday that it was Mr Sweeney's own opinion and the group was still working towards a float-out in the late summer.

Mr Benn to step into oil search dispute

By Roger Vielvoys
Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, has been forced to step into the dispute affecting the efforts of the oil companies and the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) to become partners to look for oil under new licences issued less than two weeks ago.

Mr Benn's department had hoped that BNOC and the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association, which represents 39 companies working in British waters, could have produced a standard operating agreement for exploration and development of oil fields under the fifth round licences where the state company is a compulsory 51 per cent majority shareholder.

But after long negotiations both sides produced draft agreements that were unacceptable to the other. There have been no meetings since the end of December and there is no immediate prospect of the two sides getting together again.

The main point of contention is a clause that would allow BNOC to go ahead with the development of a find even if its oil company partners thought it not worth commercial exploitation. Oil companies are suspicious that BNOC might prefer a go-alone policy rather than trying to negotiate a reduction in royalty or tax to make the economics of the field more attractive.

Mr Benn is about to tell the offshore operators that he considers that the BNOC draft is a reasonable basis for negotiations and in the absence of an agreement with the association that the companies will have to reach individual agreements with the state company.

Lord Kearton, chairman of BNOC, said talks on operating agreements had started with some of the oil companies last Friday and had gone well. He did not expect the fact that each company would have to negotiate individual agreements would cause any delays in the exploration programme for acreage licensed at the beginning of this month.

Mr R. J. Sweeney, president of Murphy Oil, one of the partners in the Ninian offshore development, has caused a flutter among the various companies involved in the development of the oilfield with his statement that the central concrete platform might not be ready for float-out this year.

Chevron, which is responsible for design, construction and positioning of the platforms, said yesterday that it was Mr Sweeney's own opinion and the group was still working towards a float-out in the late summer.

Mr Brian Laughton, administrative secretary of the federation in London, said he was not surprised at the stance taken by the crew. "Even though they were not unionized they were aware that they were being exploited".

Although Globtik was planning to bring in a British crew it was important that the company should pay off the old crew at federation rates, he said.

If owners with ships under flags of convenience in dispute over pay were allowed to pay off crews below the recommended rates, it would encourage them to delay taking action as long as possible, said Mr Laughton.

As the figure recommended by the ITF was an average of European rates, and British seamen's pay was below this average, Mr Laughton doubted whether the change to a British crew would present Globtik with a larger wage bill.

Workers say sharescheme 'drove coach and four through social contract' Unions fight GEC £178m pay-out

By John Brennan
Unions representing most of the General Electric Company's 166,000 workers in this country are totally opposed to the group's planned £178m pay-out to shareholders.

Mr Roy Sanderson, of the Electrical Trades Union, leader of GEC's 11-union national joint consultative council, said yesterday that the unions considered the scheme "bloody immoral", and that it "drove a coach-and-four through the spirit and form of the social contract".

After considering the capital reconstruction scheme and after talks with Sir Arnold Weinstock, GEC's managing director, the 11 unions unanimously opposed the plan. They have written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking him to stop the scheme and, Mr Sanderson explained, "reminding him that views of this scheme will play a major part in talks about the renewal of the social contract".

Mr Sanderson added that "if anyone doesn't believe that this scheme will influence talks on the contract, they must be mad".

The unions' council sent its letter to the Chancellor yesterday and they are seeking legal advice in the hope of challenging the capital reconstruction proposal.

They are to draw the scheme to the attention of Sir Harold Wilson in his capacity as chairman of the committee of inquiry into the City.

The reconstruction plan, announced last month, involves the issue of £178m of new floating rate capital notes to shareholders on the basis of 32p nominal of notes for each GEC share now held. The notes are repayable in 1986 and carry an interest rate 1 per cent above inter-bank rate.

GEC has explained that the reconstruction would be a part compensation to shareholders for the dilution of group equity which will follow its intended creation or acquisition of businesses overseas.

A spokesman for the group commented yesterday that the scheme was "perfectly above board". Since it involved the issue of capital notes from GEC's share premium account, the spokesman said that the issue would merely "give to shareholders what is already theirs".

The company, which has cash resources of more than £230m, has said that the reconstruction scheme will in no way affect investment plans within Britain.

And in talks with the unions Sir Arnold expressed his willingness to consider any proposals for investment projects which would create more jobs in the group.

The unions also note that the scheme is "a device to circumvent the counter-inflation curb on dividends and the tax laws". They point out that, since the scheme involves no increase in dividends, but offers shareholders a clear capital gain, on sale or redemption, the new notes will attract only Capital Gains Tax at 30 per cent only.

The unions also note that under the terms of the scheme Sir Arnold would receive notes with a nominal value of £905,000. This "shareholders' bonus" has, Mr Sanderson says, resulted in a heavy pay bag from members and shop stewards who feel that "if the group's workers had done a similar thing there would have been a hue and cry about breaking the pay code".

The Government's attitude towards the scheme was outlined last month by Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary of the Treasury. In a written parliamentary reply he said that the reconstruction "is not a dividend distribution and does not require Treasury approval".

The proposals, agreed at a meeting of GEC shareholders on January 31, now await High Court approval and first dealings in the notes are expected to take place on or about March 14. GEC's shares fell 5p to 180p on news of the unions' opposition.

Most of the money being raised will go towards funding the Corporation's two major investment projects—the Barbican development and the recently-opened London Museum.

The Barbican started in the early '60s but, largely as a result of industrial disputes, is still uncompleted. It was originally to have cost £13m, but this has risen to nearly £100m.

The residential part of the project, completed last year, cost £42m. But rising costs forced rents and rates to levels prohibitive for family occupation, and in spite of considerable opposition, the Corporation decided last year to dilute its ideal of a purely residential estate and to allow in a small number of commercial tenants.

Now well under way is the second part of the development, the arts and conference centre, and with a little luck it should be finished by 1979. But the cost is now expected to reach £50m.

The London Museum, which opened earlier this year, cost £11.5m. But whereas the funding of the Barbican is solely the responsibility of the Corporation, the museum is being financed jointly by the Corporation, the GLC and the Department of Education and Science.

Labour members of the GLC and the London Labour Party continue to press for changes with the Barbican to the Corporation—whose territory acts as a major seat of international finance—contributing more towards the financial needs of the metropolis, perhaps an extra £30m or so a year.

Not possible, comes the answer from the Corporation. For a start, capital spending has pushed the Corporation's debt up to more than £135m, and the cost of servicing this debt—nearly £15m a year—fully absorbs the Corporation's income from sources other than rates.

Income for rates does add up to a sizeable £162m a year, but of that £37.3m already goes to the GLC and £84.7m to the Inner London Education Authority.

A further £9.7m goes towards rate equalization—a helping hand to other local authorities—and £7.5m to the Thames Water Board, leaving just under £23m to meet running expenses, including those of the City of London Police.

What is more, the Corporation argues, its expenses are already unmet in the sense that a number of costs that fall on the ratepayer in other areas are met out of trust funds in the City. These include the office of the Lord Mayor and maintenance of the Thames bridge.

But financial institutions and international bankers, comes the counter-argument, can afford to pay more rates. The Corporation is sceptical. It points out that it already generates more rates per square foot than any other local authority in the country, an that there have recently been signs of an exodus to its less-expensive fringes.

The other main plank of the Labour argument is of course that the Corporation's electoral procedures—votes for ratepayers—are undemocratic. No political riots have, however, been recorded of late, and the City will be retaining the office of an alderman when other boroughs abolish it next year.

Financial Editor, page 21



Sir Arnold Weinstock: willing to discuss investment projects with the unions

The proposals, agreed at a meeting of GEC shareholders on January 31, now await High Court approval and first dealings in the notes are expected to take place on or about March 14. GEC's shares fell 5p to 180p on news of the unions' opposition.

Nube to ballot on TSB blacking

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Staff
Continued attempts to serialise a three-month blacking of a Trustee Savings Bank personal loans service by the National Union of Bank Employees (Nube) have ended in deadlock.

The union's TSB institutional committee has decided to call a ballot, probably next month, on whether to accept the bank's latest peace offer or to continue with the action.

Clearly the dispute is affecting the TSB's attempt to create a "new image", an important part of which is to give personal loans for the first time.

The ballot will be conducted among 4,750 TSB members of the union of clerk grade and above. The loans service, made possible by the Trustee Savings Bank Act, 1976, was blocked by Nube in support of an "extra responsibility" payment to 1,500 branch managers and some assistants.

The Department of Employment has continued to prevent implementation of an increase in the managers' salaries, despite representations from the TSB and the union in talks with junior ministers and senior officials, that the deal should go ahead.

Nube maintains that substantial pay increases are permissible, despite the extra duties and responsibilities involved in operating the loans service.

The original deal, which was agreed between the union and the TSB but rejected by the Department of Employment, gave increases of at least £700 a year. The latest offer is for between £150 and £200. The TSB has given a warning of "the serious consequences that will arise if the current deadlock is not ultimately resolved".

Mr William Whitman, Nube assistant secretary responsible for the TSB, said yesterday that the union was strongly opposed to the new offer.

"We have proved to the Department of Employment that the significant increases in responsibility involved justify the figures originally agreed", he said.

A covering letter with the ballot forms would state that the object of testing opinion was to confirm the view "that the members affected would be prepared to work the new service for such payments".

Tobacco tax switch causes rift

By Patricia Tisdall
Cigarette price changes due in next month's Budget, to complete the changeover to the EEC tobacco tax structure, have caused a rift between the big tobacco manufacturers.

Imperial Tobacco, which, with W.D. & H.O. Wills, holds around two-thirds of all United Kingdom cigarette sales, would like implementation of the changes delayed as long as possible. Gallaher and Carreras Rothmans, whose main interests are in the larger King-sized brands, would prefer a swifter transition.

The effect of the changes will be to narrow the price differences between large and small cigarettes.

To comply with the first phase of the EEC's requirements, the Chancellor must raise the ad valorem element from a present level of 22 per cent to a minimum of 25 per cent of the total tax. But the cigarette manufacturers are worried that the proportion would be much higher.

Gallaher's recommendation is that the ad valorem element of the tax, which is levied on the cost of the final product, should not account for more than 30 per cent of the recommended retail price. This, they say, would do least damage to the quality of cigarette research effort, profits and employment levels.

The EEC requirements also mean that the Chancellor must change the present duty charged on the weight of tobacco used, to a specific duty levied on the number of cigarettes produced, irrespective of size.

Again there is considerable scope in the scale of the new duty which can vary from 5 per cent to 75 per cent of the total. Gallaher and Rothmans would like a high specific duty element to balance the low ad valorem component.

The Treasury has said that providing the Chancellor will have to be completed in the next Finance Bill for implementation not later than January 1, 1978. It has rejected Imperial's proposals, which did not meet with agreement from other manufacturers, for a two-tier taxation system to protect smaller cigarettes.

The split between the manufacturers has meant that the Tobacco Advisory Committee, the industry trade association, has been unable to put forward collective recommendations to the Chancellor. Instead it has submitted a series of proposals reflecting the different views of its members.

In brief

Japan appealing to Gatt against ballbearing duty
Japan will appeal to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) against the temporary 20 per cent anti-dumping duty on Japanese ball and roller bearings imposed by the EEC on February 7, it was announced in Tokyo yesterday.

The Government said it would bring the case before the Gatt standing committee on dumping practices, to meet in Geneva tomorrow and Thursday.

The anti-dumping duty, imposed for a three-month period, drew an immediate Japanese protest. The Japanese Government and industry denied EEC charges that Japanese exporters had indulged in dumping practices.

Energy study contracts
Contracts for research into geothermal energy, under a programme jointly funded by the EEC and the British Government, have been awarded to the Central Electricity Generating Board's Berkeley Laboratory (computer studies on rock mechanics); the National Environmental Research Council (analysis of existing data and collection of new geothermal data); the Department of Geology, Oxford University (heat flow studies in the United Kingdom); and the Department of Geophysics at Imperial College (heat flow studies in Cornwall).

Stockbrokers remanded
Mr Lewis Altman and Mr Robert Carnes, directors of the suspended City stockbroker Lewis Altman and Co, were remanded on bail to March 30 at Guildhall, London, yesterday charged with a breach of the Exchange Control Act, 1947.

Lewis Altman and Co was suspended from trading on January 14 after the Treasury had revoked some permission granted to it under the Exchange Control Act.

Brussels talks on UK shipyard aid near end
Government negotiations with the European Commission over an emergency support scheme for British shipyards are thought to be near completion.

The scheme, which would involve an intervention fund to which shipbuilders could resort to close the gap between British prices and those quoted by foreign competition, is expected to be made available under Industry Act provisions for financial assistance to industry.

The organizing committee for British Shipbuilders, the proposed state shipbuilding group, has not taken a direct part in the Brussels negotiations, but it is being kept informed by the Department of Industry.

Price curbs Bill
The Government's consultative document on price restraint policy after present powers come to an end on July 31 will be published today. A Bill is expected to be laid before Parliament by the Easter recess.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 161.07 - 1.57
The FT index: 389.0 - 4.0

Rises
Bracken Mines 12p to 90p
Brook St Bureau 3p to 40p
Dornfontein 25p to 230p
Eimex 15p to 165p
McClary L'Ample 14p

Falls
Bath 6p to 382p
Brathwaite 10p to 245p
Decca 5p to 160p
GEO 5p to 380p
Glen 5p to 440p
Hammerston A 5p to 365p
Lloyds Bank 8p to 200p
Morse Computers 1p to 15p
Norfolk C Bils 1p to 11p

Shares
Raine Eng 1p to 16p
Ridgill & Co 1p to 10p
Sheel 8p to 480p
Soc Alliance 1p to 387p
Unilever 4p to 430p
Vickers 4p to 157p
Walsby Fisheries 1p to 18p
Walker & Houser 1p to 14p
Wyatt W Hldgs 1p to 10p

Equities
Equities had a quiet session. S&P-5 was 1.1551 on Friday while LOR-5 was 0.67836. Commodities: Coffee prices again hit new highs. Reuters' index was at 1642.0 (previous 1633.0). Gold rose \$1.90 an ounce to close at \$137.625.

On other pages
Business appointments 22
Amman vacant 18, 26
Financial Editor 21
Financial news 23, 24
Europe 22
Letter 23
Market reports 23
Share prices 25
Bank Base Rates Table 24
Annual Statements: 20
A. J. Mills 20
BOC 23
Burco Dean 19
Deanson Holdings 19
Japan International Bank 20

THE POUND
Buys Bank sells
Australia \$ 1.61 1.56
Austria Sch 30.50 28.50
Belgium Fr 65.25 62.25
Canada \$ 1.79 1.74
Denmark Kr 10.40 10.00
Finland Mk 6.70 6.45
France Fr 8.72 8.48
Germany Dm 4.25 4.03
Greece Dr 66.25 63.00
Hongkong \$ 8.15 7.70
Italy Lit 1575.00 1515.00
Japan Yen 505.00 480.00
Netherlands Gld 4.22 4.28
Norway Kr 9.38 8.92
Portugal Esc 58.00 54.50
S Africa Rd 121.00 112.50
Spain Ptas 174.00 171.50
Sweden Kr 7.50 7.15
Switzerland Fr 4.44 4.22
US \$ 1.75 1.70
Yugoslavia Ddr 34.50 32.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by the Bank of England. Exchange rates for travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Reports, pages 24 and 26

DEANSON (HOLDINGS) LTD.

Manufacturers of Computer Stationery, Business Forms and Office Books; Offset Litho Printers and Distributors of Adhesive Tapes

Results for the two years ended 30th September	1976	1975
Turnover	£2000	£2000
Profit before taxation	2,563	2,163
Profit after taxation	173	242
Dividend	83	122
ND (GROSS)	29.08%	29.08%

POINTS FROM CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT
Difficulties referred to in my Interim Statement issued in the second half of the year.
Capital expenditure of £200,000 on new plant and machinery has now been completed but the results for year did not benefit from this expenditure. However, at that time we are now in a position to meet any large surge in demand which might occur.
Lower for the first four months of the current year been maintained but I will not attempt to make forecast for the rest of the year due to the uncertain difficult trading conditions which continue to prevail.
The Report and Accounts are obtainable from—
Secretary, DEANSON (HOLDINGS) LTD.,
RTHGATE, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL WS9 8TJ.

Doubts on deficit delay Carter budget till today

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Feb 21

President Carter will send his 1978 Budget proposal to Congress tomorrow. Minor delays have arisen largely because of last-minute efforts to ensure that the deficit is held below \$60,000m (about £35,300m).

Administration sources stressed that proposals for the year starting on October 1 were likely to be revised by both the Administration and Congress. They note that the new Administration had not yet had time to design fully a Budget of its own.

President Carter's proposals will be presented as essentially modest changes in the budget programme announced by the Ford Administration in mid-January.

Mr Carter hopes to prepare legislative programmes in the next few months dealing with tax reform, social welfare and energy issues, and hopes to complete a major review of defence spending.
The Administration is taking the view that the programme should be announced before the end of the fiscal year.

Burco Dean

A year of Product and Market Development

Points from the Chairman's review:
PREPARING FOR FUTURE GROWTH Despite deteriorating trading conditions in 1976 the Company continued uninterrupted its preparations for future growth, but naturally had to withstand the resultant cost and organisational stress.
NEW PRODUCTS The year saw an unprecedented development of new products, all carefully selected to meet the requirements of the market segments at which we are aiming.
MAXIMUM DIVIDEND Turnover increased by 11% to nearly £18 million, but profit before taxation was £469,000, compared with the record £1,428,000 achieved in 1974-75. Notwithstanding this poor result, your Board feels that the steps taken to improve profitability and to widen the product range justified their recommendation of an increase in final dividend from 1.8715 pence per share to 1.9988 pence per share, the maximum permitted.
FIRST QUARTER IMPROVEMENT "We are already feeling the benefits of all the work and development completed during the past year, and turnover and profit have improved considerably in the first quarter over the closing period of the previous year."
Lord Hewlett, Chairman.
A.G.M. 12 noon 22nd February at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London EC2.
Burco Dean Limited, Acorn Road, Burnley, Lancs. BB11 8DS.
Eastham • Eastham Burco • Eastham Maxol • Eastham Pyramid

Whitehall explores outlets for Japanese investment in UK

By Our Industrial Editor

Possibilities of attracting more Japanese investment to Britain as a base for expanding European trade have been explored by Mr Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry.

Mr Carey, who has just returned from the Far East, said yesterday that investment in Britain from Japan was too small, and Japanese companies which had come had been satisfied. Britain was a good base for Europe, with lower costs and a skilled labour force seeking employment.

One or two possibilities have been mentioned, and Mr Carey felt the Japanese were becoming more outward looking. He believed Britain could offer good competitive incentives compared with Belgium, France, and the Irish Republic.

During extensive talks in Japan—Mr Carey also went to Korea and Hong Kong—he says he took a tough posture with regard to Japan's export policies. He stressed that there was a limit to what Europe could take, and there were protective pressures on European governments if Japan did not open up her markets.

Mr Carey said he accepted that British exporters had to be much more determined in overcoming non-tariff barriers and getting to grips with the Japanese distributive system. More joint ventures were needed, along with the investment of much time and effort.

He was satisfied from his on-the-spot talks that there were many opportunities for the painstaking exporter. Japan was much more aware of the problems for exporters from Europe.

Britain was in the running for power station contracts in the Far East. In Japan Mr Carey had raised the question of orders for the BAC-111 modified aircraft, though there was a reluctance to make up minds. He had seen opportunities for such things as medical equipment and offshore equipment as well as items such as clothing, whisky, and other products attracting Japanese demand.

He also felt that his studies of Korea suggested possibilities for British investment in securing a share of Far East manufacturing.

Korea, he said, was where Japan had been 10 to 15 years ago, and would continue to expand, perhaps in those areas where Japan might tend to go "up market" as Korea's impact on volume production was more strongly felt.



Mr Peter Carey: Japanese investment in Britain is too small.

Korea was a good base for exporting to South East Asia. Despite some risks the regime seemed pretty stable and there was no doubt industry was developing very fast.

Brussels sees clash in talks on buffer stocks

Brussels, Feb 21.—Next month's negotiating conference on a common fund to finance buffer stocks of major commodities will probably end in another clash between the less developed countries and the main industrialized nations, Mr Jose Nicolai, head of the Raw Materials Secretariat of the EEC Commission said today.

Mr Nicolai told a European conference on investment in commodities here that no compromise could be reached by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development ministerial meeting in Geneva, scheduled to run from March 7 to April 1.

He said later he was very pessimistic on a short-term compromise but thought industrial nations could reach bilateral agreement with some commodity producers in Africa providing they avoided major confrontations at international meetings. He added that he was summarizing the views of industrial nations and not speaking for the EEC.

He told the conference the Geneva meeting could produce any of four results. It could be postponed, or break down in disagreement, some industrial countries such as the Netherlands and Scandinavia might create a breakaway common fund without their partners or all the industrial countries might agree in Nairobi last year—and accept the demands of the less developed countries.

He said it seemed the Carter Administration would not get clearance from Congress to support a United States contribution for an International Monetary Fund scheme on commodity financing for commodity buffer stocks.

If this happened and the United meeting produced no result, the industrial nations would have to review their position and offer the producers something more when the north-south dialogue was resumed in Paris in April—Reuter.

A view to put directors' cause back 100 years

From Mr J. Chudley and others. Sir, In his letter (February 14) the director-general of the Institute of Directors has just put the cause of British industry in general and that of company directors in particular back 100 years.

His simplistic nineteenth century view of "the board of directors" is the corporate businessman and its primary role is to make executive decisions, not only to negotiate all the serious thinking and writing that has taken place this century on the company as an integral part of society but also directly in the face of the declared role of the institute itself—to raise the professional status of directors.

Direct refutation of this view can be found in the writings of Lord Tangleby, Viscount Chandos and Lord Watkinson et al. as well as a host of academics on both sides of the Atlantic. It is also quite clear that had this view prevailed 16 years ago the institute's own bible *Standard Boardroom Practice* would never have been written. The basis of the grass roots opposition to Bullock among the

thinking directors is the total misunderstanding of the role and function of a board of directors which was implicit in Lord Bullock's terms of reference before he ever set down for the first time and, it seems, is now compounded by the director-general of the institute himself.

Hopefully political expediency will dictate that Bullock disappears in a labyrinth of further "consultations", but unless a concerted effort is made now to define and refine a board of directors collectively and a director as an individual is supposed to do, we may be sure that the genuine need for democratic expression will once again be aimed at the wrong target of the boardroom door, instead of, as it should, the dual target of company meetings and consultative committees. Yours faithfully, JOHN CHUDLEY, MARTIN ROSENHEAD, ERNEST SNELLING, Associated Non-Executive Directors, Grosvenor Gardens House, 13 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.

Statutory employment protection machinery

From Mr Michael Stothie. Sir, In Friday's (February 18) issue you reported the (member's) refusal to allow the Industrial Board for the Contracting Industry's trial agreement on unfair dismissal to be exempted from statutory employment protection machinery provided in the 1974 Industrial Relations Act.

The Electrical Contractors Association (which with the equal represents the unions, comprises it has given full support application which would view benefit all concern. The JIB disputes procedure made for the industry can be brought into effect quickly than an industrial tribunal. It has wider and flexible remedies available than a tribunal, and is more likely to bring a reconciliation and improve industrial relations. It is much less costly means of dealing with complaints than the employment tribunal from the employer's point of view.

In general, the association feels that the JIB procedure is a better way of dealing with the legislation for the industry than the application of an ordinary "across the board" tribunal.

It is quite clear that the application has been made as a nuisance by the member of Employment. Since the application made in 1974, all sorts of objections have been made, and all have been answered.

The trouble is that the industry has made an industry under this section. This is not really because we are pious the JIB concept, and as such as our, with provision for the industry, and judgments to be made independent people, is British industry.

The delegation made their disappointment at the rules of the minister, and the application had to be made to the original thinking.

One might have thought the Government would be eagerly for ways of saving the industrial relations legislation, and would welcome proposals which could well have wide implications for the construction industry.

This is especially relevant in the light of the recent report on comparative pay. The report indicates that there is a need for comparative about trial relations in construction. Yours truly, MICHAEL STOTHE, Chairman, Electrical Contractors Association and Past-President of ECA, 32-34 Palace Court, London, W2, February 11.

Life assurance. From Mr Graham M. I. Sir, May I mention one omission from your issue of 18th February? Values quoted in your article (February 12)?

The surrender value of Life Assurance is now £1, regardless of the hundreds of thousands of pounds that individual holders have paid in. Although the company, being run as a closed fund, very real tragedy of the situation for over 80,000 policyholders should not be forgotten. Yours truly, G. M. KITCHEN, Mill Barn, Bassettsbury Lane, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP11 2JH, February 14.

PO literacy

From Ms Rosemary Friedman. Sir, I expect I have been one of the children whom the Yellow Post Office proclaims: "Everyone should have a phone of their own." Yours faithfully, ROSEMARY FRIEDMAN, Three Chainways, The Common, Stanmore, Middlesex, February 14.

NRDC stake in miniature TV project

By Our Technology Correspondent

The National Research Development Corporation confirmed yesterday that it has embarked on a joint-venture project with Sinclair Radionics— which last month launched a "pocket" television set with a two-inch screen—that might involve an investment of nearly £750,000 over several years.

The aim of the project is to develop improved versions of the company's miniature television set. An NRDC executive said yesterday that if the market expanded satisfactorily and if the programme met its "million" targets, the funding could approach £750,000.

As with most NRDC joint-venture agreements, the Sinclair deal involves a 50/50 sharing of costs by the corporation and the company, with an appropriate return to the corporation if the project is successful.

Funding by the NRDC began last April, but the formal signing of the Sinclair agreement was postponed until the £550,000 of new capital in the company by the National Enterprises Board was concluded in December.

Engineers' chief against power disconnections

By Malcolm Brown

Mr Robert Fitz, chairman of the power division of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, yesterday urged professional engineers to heed their responsibility to the community and promote the idea that power disconnection should never be used.

Speaking in London at the opening of an international conference on the reliability of power supplies Mr Fitz said that power supply disconnection was the ultimate sanction that

could only be used in desperate circumstances. "I believe that continuity of power supply is so vital a factor in our struggle for economic recovery, or even survival, that it must be regarded as of a completely different order of importance to maintaining rail or postal services or whatever else we may lack from time to time," he said.

That the H-Bomb is to military struggle so is power supply disconnection in industrial strife.

\$1,550m pipe job to Mobil

By Roger Vilevoe

Mobil Oil, one of the partners in the Arabian American Oil Co (Aramco) has been awarded a contract by Petrobras, the Saudi Arabian state oil company, to design and manage the construction of a \$1,550m (£900m) pipeline that will link the oilfields in the east of the country with the port of Yanbu on the Red Sea.

The 48-inch diameter line will be 1,370 kilometres long with a capacity of 2.23 million barrels of oil a day, according to the magazine *Middle East Economic Survey*. Yanbu is to be developed into an industrial

area and Mobil is already involved in plans for a 250,000 barrel a day refinery and an ethylene based petrochemical complex in the area.

The magazine also reported that Qatari would pay Shell \$24m compensation for the company's remaining 40 per cent stake in offshore oil developments, taken over by the government.

Shell declined to comment on the report, which also stated that it would receive a 15 cent a barrel fee for continuing to manage and operate the fields and would also buy an average of 145,000 barrels of oil a day

Minister's plea to support job release scheme

Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday appealed to employers and trade union officials to give more backing to the Government's "job release scheme".

The arrangement, which allows workers within one year of statutory pensionable age give up their jobs and make way for younger unemployed persons in return for a tax free weekly allowance.

In a letter sent to 28,500 employers and 400 union officials, Mr Booth asks for help in making the scheme which began on January 3 as effective as possible. By February 15, only 8,805 applications had been received.

"Although it is early in the scheme's life," Mr Booth writes, "I am a little disappointed by the numbers of applications. I am sure that, if we are to make the scheme work, we must have more than 10,000 applications by the end of the year."

The scheme is designed to help the Government to meet its target of creating 250,000 new jobs by the end of 1977. It is a key part of the Government's strategy to reduce unemployment.

Institutions are stepping up purchases of farmland

By Hugh Clayton

Total funds allocated by institutions for investment in farmland rose by between a third and a half last year, Jones Lang Wootton, the estate agents, reported yesterday. As much as £75m may have been earmarked for such investment in 1976.

The company, which handled 14,000 acres in deals for investment clients last year, added, "The private investor was of little more significance last year." Buying of farms by City institutions and pension funds is resented by many farmers because family owners face tax demands every generation while institutions do not.

It seems inevitable in the face of current taxation legislation that land ownership will continue to pass from the wealthy private owner to the institutions," Jones Lang Wootton said. It considered such

ownership, now being investigated by the National Farmers' Union, "perhaps an acceptable form of 'land nationalisation'."

The company said that demand for good farmland has recovered in the past six months with prices often reaching more than £1,000 an acre. "Perhaps the most dramatic increase has been in the potato-growing areas of Scotland," it said.

It quoted market yields of about 44 per cent on lease-backs, 24 per cent on investment farms and between 2 and 3 per cent on traditional let estates. Rents quoted during the year had risen by 30 per cent.

"This reflects the overall confidence of the larger farmer against the background of increased potential cereal yields and prices." Another factor was the effect on profitability of the last two years of potato growing.

New system for bank clearing services

An ICL 2960 computer has been delivered to Bankers' Automated Clearing Services (BACS) as the first part of a £1.5m order. The first part of the order will be used for the organisation uses four ICL 1904S machines.

Owned jointly by five of the main clearing banks, BACS was set up to provide electronic funds transfer within the British banking system. The four 1904S computers handle about 280 million money transfers a year at present.

The transfers are handled electronically, so reducing the volume of paper vouchers in the clearing system. Transfers are received on magnetic tape produced by bank computers, and by more than 2,200 companies and corporations in the private and public sectors.

After processing, they are distributed on magnetic tape to the banks holding the accounts to be debited or credited. BACS claims to be the largest paperless money transmission service in operation anywhere in the world.

ICL pushes 'Ten'

The improved version of the ex-Singer System Ten computer announced by ICL last week—the System Ten 220 Series—has been introduced within five months of the British company's formal acquisition of the international operations of Singer Business Machines.

It emphasises ICL's aim not only to hold on to the Singer customer base, but also to develop further its interest in the small-business-system end of the computer spectrum.

Mr Peter Ellis, ICL marketing director, reaffirms the company's claim that the System Ten and ICL's own 2903 small computer are complementary products. "On System Ten alone," he says, "we have taken £7.5m worth of orders in the past three months."

The new 220 series, he suggests, will win orders worth over £100m by 1980, with the vast majority coming from outside the United Kingdom.

ICL's sales force has increased significantly as a result of the Singer acquisition, Mr Ellis says; the company's small-system customer base has been doubled and its "intelligent terminal" customer base has been tripled, and it has gained a strong position in the expanding markets for retail point-of-sale and factory data-collection systems.

In addition to strengthening

Computer news

ing our presence in Germany and France, new market opportunities have been created in Finland, Norway, Spain and Italy and our order books in these countries are already looking very healthy.

Our new subsidiary, ICL Inc, has offices in major cities throughout the United States and, through a recently established dealer network, our products are now sold in 11 cities in Japan and an even greater number in Latin America.

Oilfield forecasting

The oil division of BOC Data-solve, the £8m turnover services company which is owned by BOC International, has formed a new group to forecast the behaviour of North Sea oilfields by computer simulation techniques.

The group will draw on consultancy from Mr Lew Ridings, formerly vice-president of Ryder Scott Petroleum Engineers, Houston, and now principal petroleum engineering consultant to Datasolve's oil division; and from two new associates.

One is with the petroleum engineering department of Heriot-Watt University, headed by Professor Jim Brown. The other is with Dr Colin Phipps and Partners, of Malvern, Worcestershire.

These two organizations will provide petroleum engineering staff for the new group's projects. The service will be based on obtaining a comprehensive understanding of the likely behaviour of petroleum reservoirs.

Since its introduction in Germany, about 500 of the 8820 terminals have been installed in continental Europe, and a further 1,500 have been ordered, mainly by large companies and government organizations.

Kenneth Owen

Inflation accounting

From Mr C. Westwick

Sir, The Inflation Accounting Steering Group has no illusions that it is omniscient and we therefore welcome reasoned comments on the *Exposure Draft 18*. On inflation accounting, and in particular suggestions for tackling the practical problems of implementing it. We should not like it to be thought that we wish to stifle criticism but some of the remarks that have been made do appear to call for comment in order to give a more balanced picture.

The steering group will consider all written submissions. In fact, very few have been received so far (and none from the accountants who are reported in the press). We would welcome more comment because it is important that the steering group should not be unduly influenced by commentators who are perhaps more vocal than representative.

It has been suggested that ED 18 is too complicated. Critics who make this particular point would appear to be confusing length with complexity. We have endeavoured to provide a reasonably comprehensive guide to the totality of a new accounting system. One should not compare ED 18 with previous exposure drafts but with the length of an exposure draft required to describe, for example, the historical cost accounting system.

It has been suggested that the exposure draft should be limited to depreciation, the cost of sales adjustment, the valuation of stock and the valuation of fixed assets. This suggestion is somewhat surprising as the items concerned account for nearly all of the length of ED 18 and also the work required to produce current cost accounts.

To those who suggest that an ED 18 type statement is un-auditable, we would point to the accounts of the first three companies to publish ED 18 statements—Redman, Hogg, Ackroyd and Smithers, and P. J. Carroll. All these accounts have been audited by respected firms: Marwick, Thomson, McIntosh, and Craig Gardner.

Just as accountants have responded to the challenge of providing more useful information to companies, in a period of inflation, so it is important that the auditors should also respond to the challenge of auditing this new information and we are sure that the Audit Practices Committee will do so.

One wonders how well researched was the comment that ED 18 has been inadequately researched. For the record, the Inflation Accounting Steering Group consulted continuously throughout the production of ED 18 over 120 companies covering the whole spectrum of British industry and some 80 representative bodies. Moreover, the proposals were discussed by working parties, the steering group itself, and by the ASC before being published.

There has also been a suggestion that current cost accounting should be introduced initially into the profit and loss account only by means of a cost of sales adjustment and increased depreciation. This suggestion is attractive and we will no doubt consider it again. However, it would lead to the anomalous

situation of a profit and loss account on current cost principles and a balance sheet on historical cost accounting principles.

Moreover, and perhaps more important, there is little evidence that this would lead to any substantial reduction in the workload on companies. To recalculate depreciation and the cost of sales it is necessary to revalue fixed assets and stock.

There has also been a suggestion that the use of indices in valuing assets would be perfectly adequate. One wonders what evidence the commentators have for this suggestion. Our field testers rejected the idea of using CRO indices on the grounds that the results would be misleading, and it was at their request that the choice of methods was included in ED 18.

There is some confusion about the term "modern equivalent asset". We are not asking companies to value what they would like to have, but in valuing what they have, to bear in mind the effect on the value of existing old assets of the existence of better replacements which will tend to depress the value of the existing asset.

It is true that we have not defined distributable profit. The reason for this is that there is by no means agreement amongst either accountants or businessmen or lawyers as to what is the substance of the business which should be maintained before a company may distribute any profit. We have, however, made a major step forward in requiring companies to set out in the appropriation account and in the directors' report, or the notes to the accounts how they have arrived at a figure for distributable profit. This is a major step forward in disclosure.

There has been a fair amount of criticism of our treatment of monetary items but it would not be unfair to say that for every company that wants us to go further there is another company which feels that we have gone too far. This seems to be a subject which generates a fairly large amount of emotion and it is highly desirable that there should be a compromise rather than nothing at all. It is better that the information should be disclosed and available for those who want to use it than that there should be no data at all.

It is most important that accountants should adapt to the relatively new world of inflation prices and that published accounts should present a more realistic picture to investors and other readers. However, it is human nature to resist change because it means more work, tackling the unfamiliar and moving out of a comfortable rut.

If accountants fail to respond to this challenge they will have neglected their responsibility to their public and the probability is that they will be replaced by others more willing to perform the needed service.

CHRIS WESTWICK, Secretary, The Inflation Accounting Steering Group.

A.J. MILLS

(HOLDINGS) LIMITED
Food Importers and Distributors

Years ended October	1974	1975	1976
Turnover	£41.3m	£51.0m	£53.9m
Profit before tax	670,330	781,078	678,869
Profit after tax & extraordinary items	319,025	179,291	402,531
Dividends	86,015	91,405	99,968
Earnings	8.9p	9.4p	9.0p
Net Assets per ord. share	63.1p	65.7p	74.5p

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Colonial House, Tooley Street, London SE1 2PL.

Extract from Accounts at 31st December, 1976.

	1976	1975
Issued Capital	£000	£000
Retained Profits	10,800	10,800
Subordinated Loans	2,462	1,506
Deposits	5,872	4,941
Loans	352,480	273,825
Total Assets	216,665	169,599
Profits before Taxation	379,319	296,810
after Taxation	2,988	1,825
	1,388	849

Japan International Bank Limited

Shareholders

Fuji Bank	Daiwa Securities
Mitsubishi Bank	Nikko Securities
Sumitomo Bank	Yamaichi Securities
Tokai Bank	

7/8 King Street, London EC2V 8DX

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Anglo American shows underlying strength

Anglo American Corporation's 47 per cent of its income from gold has yet been a year, but the fact is that the company is able to increase income by some 10m to 15m and gold investment is massing their resources how.

buying Anglo one taking a stake in the high gold commodity price.

in gold investment last year will have increases in dividend, and the company is planning to pay a dividend of 4.9 pence.

the profit of investment has risen sharply from 2m to 10m in the last year.

the company is doing slightly better than expected, and the company is planning to pay a dividend of 4.9 pence.

the company is doing slightly better than expected, and the company is planning to pay a dividend of 4.9 pence.

Marchwiel
Coming good overseas

Marchwiel's drive for overseas work to counter the depression at home has started to pay off. A 4m turnover to foreign profits of 1.3m accounts for all of last year's 53 per cent improvement to 10.7m—struck after a 4m pension fund provision.

More intriguing, however, is the effect of the United Kingdom construction recession on Marchwiel's liquid funds. With last year's fine weather enabling the company to complete a release of provisions and retentions, cash has swollen from last year's 14m to almost 26m—a figure of all proportion to current turnover.

So the shares up 6p yesterday to 150 are still some 15p below liquid assets of 157p a share. With the outlook looking stodgy at best in the United Kingdom, although industrial building activity is providing some cushion, any let-up in this rising tide of liquidity seems unlikely for at least 18 months.

There is presumably little point in Marchwiel making acquisitions in the construction sector at home while the expansion of the overseas base—turnover last year was 1.3m, but proved particularly burdensome.

Meanwhile, the group in partnership with Laidlaw is still vying for a potentially massive slice of the £1,000m Tehran to Tabriz railway project in Iran which it gets the go-ahead could require huge initial funding.

With this project unlikely to affect Marchwiel before 1978, the current year could see the group making time although the overseas emphasis is likely to continue to increase dramatically. Substantial contracts have already been won in the Sudan and the Arab Emirates while new markets are being opened in the Middle East and Africa.

The shares are on a p/e ratio of just over 31 and despite the miserable yield of 3.5 per cent—the dividend is 13 times covered—look good against the sector.

Final: 1975/76 (1974/75)
Capitalization £22.5m
Sales £182m (£144m)
Pre-tax profits £10.7m (£7m)
Earnings per share 38.5p (20.2p)
Dividend gross 4.69p (4.26p)
After deducting 4m pension fund premium.

City loan
Of interest to the GLC

The new £25m Corporation of London stock—flat yield of 13.45 per cent and gross redemption yield of 13.58 per cent—may not be anything like as generous as the recent FFI offering but it is still a good point and a half above a comparable gilt and also offers a small advantage over the similarly dated GLC stock.

There is also a near 4-week run in £10 paid forward and then a long run from mid-March to early July at £50 paid. So barring a setback in the gilt market between now and Thursday morning, the stock should go well enough to all of which should doubtless be of considerable interest to the GLC which the market reckons to have a very much larger issue up its sleeve.

BOC
Room to move

Early next month BOC International lodges its appeal against the United States Federal Trade Commission's ruling that it should divest its 34 per cent holding in Aircro. A decision is expected by December, which if favourable will allow exchange of commercial and technical information and merging of interests, which the FTC has so far disallowed.

Meanwhile, Aircro is already fully justifying BOC's investment.

Dividend income exceeds the cost of interest on related borrowings; the pre-tax return on cost plus retained profits, given in the 1976 balance sheet, is 29 per cent, and market value at £74m exceeds book value by £5.7m.

If the fight goes to the Supreme Court a decision may not be known until 1980 but, in fact, BOC could divest now without any bad damage to the balance sheet.

BOC's gearing ratios have steadily improved over the past five years. Revaluation of assets (£39m), currency changes (£23m) and retained profits added £85.3m to capital employed at £519m while working capital increases were small and borrowings reduced. From being 45.1 per cent of capital employed in 1974 borrowings have fallen to 29 per cent, a ratio which the board regards on the low side, but despite capital spending of more than £60m should remain about the same this year.

First quarter profits due to tomorrow will give the best guide as to how good the current year will be. At 65p, the 9/16 ratio on outside estimates of £88m pre-tax for the current year, is under five, and the prospective yield, assuming no change in dividend restraint policy, is 6.8 per cent. On that basis the shares should at least match the market.

Accounts 1976 (1975)
Capitalization £168.1m
Net assets £240.4m (£191.1m)
Borrowings £153m (£156m)
Pre-tax profit £73.6m (£46.1m)
Earnings per share 10.5p (8.02p)

A package deal that could save the goods trains



Richard Hope, Editor of 'Railway Gazette', argues that greater efficiency is the key to a greater BR share of freight business

The first was a management "validation" of a research division plan for a second-generation Freightliner system to carry containers, code-named Speedlink. Doubtless intended to dispose of a bizarre proposal that would have played havoc with traditional operations and labour agreements, the validation contained astonishing cost figures for buying, maintaining and fuelling container trains. On this basis British Rail should be charging Freightliners Ltd at least three times what Freightliners is actually paying today for train movement.

Speedlink costs were certainly exaggerated—though British Rail denies this—but they also highlight the fact that nearly all locomotives and most wagons were built before the 1968 Transport Act, which wrote off much of the railway capital debt. It is all too obvious that current freight charges are not providing for replacement of rolling stock and motive power and this cannot go on for ever.

The second report recommended lopping up to 2,500 miles off the 3,000-mile passenger network; in return, the National Bus Company would be forced to withdraw long-distance coaches competing with inter-city trains.

Of course, the two events are connected only in the minds of the British Rail board. There is not the slightest indication that either the Government or the National Bus Company wants to restrict cheap travel by long-distance coach, though both parties would be delighted to see a large number of trains replaced by buses since the Government could take anything up to £300m off British Rail's passenger subsidy.

Many of the lines British Rail wants to strip of passengers are cross-country links such as Ipswich-Dunstable, on which freight now gets a free ride because track costs are covered by the block passenger grant. And Mr Rodgers told the Commons quite emphatically on January 20: "Nothing I have heard since taking up my present office in September has led me to see a justification for long-term subsidies to any mode of freight transport."

Unable to absorb perhaps £50m of additional track costs, the general freight business would suffer a major collapse as strategic lines were closed and individual customers switched to road because they could not afford a "private siding" 20 miles long.

Quite right, too, the economic would say, though the public, who would have to suffer the social and environmental costs of more heavy lorries, might view it differently. Further, it is hard to see how our railways—already seriously overmanned and under-used by continental standards—are going to become more efficient when faced with a further large drop in freight and passenger business.

Happily, there is large scope for improving the economics of rail freight through better use of men and assets. Moreover, the very fact that British Railways' share of national freight revenue is a miserable 4 per cent means that there is a lot of hard cash to be picked up once unit costs can be brought down and service standards improved.

It is not just that British Railways pay out up to 40 times as much as the road haulier in crew wages for each mile covered by a train or lorry, thus throwing away the inherent economy of trains. The crippling restrictions which traditional operating methods impose on the use of rolling stock mean that locomotives and wagons spend far too much time standing still. Tripling the fleet of rolling stock to intro-

duce "realism" into the research division's original proposal was a major factor in the demise of Speedlink.

The railwayman regards a "merry-go-round" cost trains as a miracle of high utilization, with wagons spending two hours at the colliery instead of two days. Yet the actual loading takes 30 minutes and cutting terminal time by half on a 15-mile haul makes a big saving. What road haulier would waste two hours at the pithead if he could load in 30 minutes?

At last week's select committee hearing Mr Peter Parker, British Rail's chairman, repeated the call for Freightliners Ltd to be returned to British Rail control. This is crucial, because any attempt to make rail freight viable is clearly going to need major and closely coordinated changes on four fronts: marketing, operating, industrial relations and technical.

Direct control of container carrying is vital if—as is likely—closer integration of container, trainload and wagonload services proves necessary.

But Mr Parker's cry for more investment just to prevent British Rail "freezing to death" will certainly be rejected by Mr Rodgers. Whitehall's view is that if the bleeding axe is to swing again, money for trains is money wasted.

No, this time the railwayman have to change their spots first. Essentially, this means a package deal in which unions agree to a reduction in government a viable strategy for a larger freight business based on agreement to operate more efficiently with one-man crews.

Lower movement costs and better service might well capture 40 million tons a year from the roads, doubling British Rail's freight revenue and stabilizing road ton-miles.

Convinced a Labour government of this and British Rail would see its investment soon enough. Until then, however, Whitehall is happy to adopt the attitude of letting British Rail freeze in the dark.

Pay policy worries for the local councils

Eric Wigham

Tomorrow morning 20 or 30 speakers for local authorities up and down the country, members of their national Conditions of Service Advisory Board, will call on Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, to put their case for a new pay policy after July 31, if there is one.

They are expected to suggest a new "social contract" between government and the two sides of industry which would at the same time allow a wide measure of collective bargaining and maintain overall control of pay movements.

Their idea is that there should be a defined total limit for each pay group which might contain two elements—a small general increase of 1 per cent or x pounds, and a further y per cent to cover all other increases in earnings through such things as the correction of anomalies, restoration of differentials, consolidation of part of the supplements of the past two years into basic pay, productivity bonuses, overtime, fringe benefits, and wage drift generally.

How far the government would be used would be a matter for negotiation, and would thus be much more flexible than the rigid limits on individual items contained in Phase 3 of Mr Edward Heath's policy.

Tomorrow's negotiation will not only represent the employers of nearly three million people, an eighth of the country's workforce including town hall staff and manual workers, builders and other craftsmen, police, firemen, teachers, probation officers, social workers and many others; they will also speak for the nation's ratepayers,

anxious to avoid changes which will add heavily to their expenditure.

The suggestion they have in mind arises out of the problems they foresee for local government in some proposals for a new pay policy, but they are aware that the new policy will also face many other industries and services. They are unlikely to go into detail when it is uncertain whether it will be possible to reach agreement on a new policy at all, and when no one knows the Chancellor's Budget intentions, which could have an important effect on the take-home pay of the low paid and on differentials.

They will hope for a further meeting after the terms of the Budget are known. They will concentrate meanwhile on their view that a third stage is essential if the inflationary pressure is to be avoided. They will urge that any measures designed to avoid the administrative burden of the present stage, which necessitates special calculations each pay day for each employee and includes provisions on incremental scales which they have found almost impossible to work.

But sooner or later they will come back to their main anxiety, which arises out of trade union pressures for consolidation of the present pay supplement into basic pay. This would mean a much higher basis for the calculation of bonus payments and overtime premia and could add nearly £70m to their wage bill.

The latest Department of Employment figures showed that bonus payments were more than 12 per cent of the pay of the 270,000 full-time

men covered by the local authority manual workers joint council and overtime premiums amounted to 10p per cent. The proportions are much lower for women, but higher for 120,000 craftsmen, taking the two items together.

The figures are not exceptional. In some industries, such as construction and civil engineering and sections of transport and textiles, they are much higher. But local government is a labour-intensive service and 70 per cent of the manual workers operate under bonus schemes.

Under their national guidelines the schemes provide for payment of one third above basic rates for a "standard performance", but many of them have got out of hand. In some authorities men are earning up to 100 per cent above basic rates.

The direct cost of consolidation would probably not be the end of it. There has already been mounting dissatisfaction among those not on bonus schemes at their comparatively low earnings. A sudden further increase in the gap could well cause a morale crisis which would not be allowed under the present pay policy and the unions workers either by extending bonus schemes to those to whom it is impractical to apply

them effectively or by making "Hau" payments, or, at the worst, by spreading the practice of offering them additional overtime.

If a general pay increase were permitted of, say, 5 per cent this in addition to immediate full consolidation and available lay payments, could well add £250m to the national pay bill—equivalent to an average increase in rates of between 2p and 3p in the pound, though, of course, it would vary greatly between different authorities and another. In the circumstances the employers feel strongly that consolidation, if decided on, should be by stages.

Alarmed by the extent to which bonus schemes have been ill-conceived or allowed to deteriorate, so that the cost of some has little relation to increased productivity, the employers have been marshalling their resources on the possibility of reform. Two papers on productivity prepared for the employers side of the national joint council for manual workers by Mr Brian Rusbridge, the secretary, have been discussed and raised in the most thorough exercise in employer consultation ever undertaken in local government.

No immediate action is possible to buy out bad bonus schemes because increases are not allowed under the present pay policy and the unions refuse to enter into discussions which can result in decreases which cannot result in increases.

Even the harmonisation of bonus schemes in the reorganized local authorities has had to stop, in some cases in midstream.

Nevertheless, broad lines of policy have emerged to provide a basis for proposals to the unions when opened day work. Some authorities still say that their bonus schemes more than pay for themselves, but others admit that theirs are costly and inefficient.

There is a desire to get away from the rather rigid national guidelines and adopt a more flexible framework which, within limits, will allow each authority to adopt its own scheme.

It is widely accepted that efforts should be made to bring wasteful schemes back into line and control the gap between bonus and non-bonus earners, perhaps with an upper limit on non-bonus earnings. There is no overall plan to replace them by measured day work, but there is agreement that work study should be regarded mainly as a management tool, rather than as a basis for incentive payments.

Whether or not their framework for a new pay policy is adopted, local authorities will continue to urge very strongly that there should be freedom to reform pay structures and that, so far as productivity agreements are permitted, emphasis should be placed on the updating of existing schemes, with new schemes introduced only if it is shown that they can be effectively controlled.

Business Diary: British Aerospace's co-pilots • BSC manifesto

Chairman-designate Aerospace—used aircraft in the called—and his Allen Greenan of the British Aviation, have now vied towards agreement management when the long hybridity issue is the industry goes to.

will be split into—aircraft in space and miss—Diary can reveal who is at present BAC's commercial aircraft division and by George Jeffers of the BAC ons division.

uty will be Eric Hawker, Siddeley id—although this is clear—Dr George ty managing director Siddeley Dyna-

the two top jobs BAC men, British ill be at pains to suggestion of a BAC it has to be hat many of Hawker Siddeley sing over to state referring to stay ide range of non-erests which the

sic case is Sir illy, chairman of alley, who would certainty for one jobs, but who has clear that as an



The men who are to head British Aerospace's two main divisions, Freddie Page (aircraft) and George Jeffers (space and missiles).

implicable enemy of nationalization he did not want to be considered. Beswick appears to have eschewed the idea of having an overall chief executive and Page and Jeffers will be managing directors of their divisions as well as chairmen. Both are engineers by training, and both were with the English Electric company which is now part of BAC.

Sir Peter Fletcher, the director of Hawker Siddeley Aviation, is responsible for international and military affairs, is being tipped in the aircraft industry to join the board of British Aerospace soon.



the worker director principle should apply throughout the industry. These are two of the points in a manifesto signed by the 18 present worker directors of BSC in a book to be published in May.

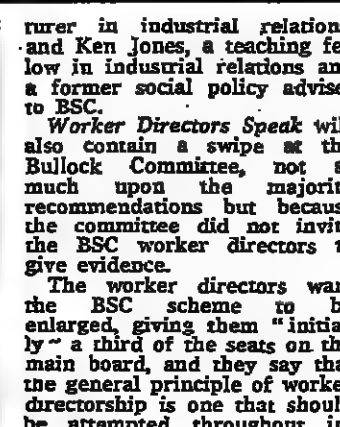
At the moment, there is one worker director, Warren Griffiths, on the BSC main board and 17 more on divisional boards. The corporation has had a worker director system since 1968.

The book, which is to be entitled 'Worker Directors Speak', is being placed with Gower Press today and a simultaneous paperback deal is likely to be made this week.

It is not a BSC venture as such. The book is both by and about the directors, and was prepared in collaboration with two London Business School academics, a lecturer in industrial relations, and Ken Jones, a teaching fellow in industrial relations and a former social policy adviser to BSC.

Worker Directors Speak will also contain a swipe at the Bullock Committee, not so much upon the majority recommendations but because the committee did not invite the BSC worker directors to give evidence.

The worker directors want the BSC scheme to be enlarged, giving them "initially a third of the seats on the main board, and they say that the general principle of worker directorship is one that should be attempted throughout industry.



plained to the Advertising Standards Authority that the campaign is "directly misleading" and includes "knocking copy".

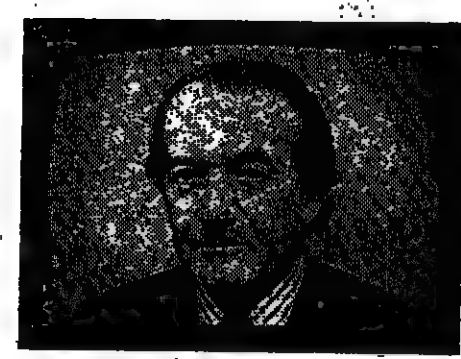
I was unaware that spaghetti was "vegetable", he writes. "Nutritionally spaghetti and beans cannot be considered as substitutes for fresh vegetables and it is dangerous to suggest that their replacement should be made."

Heinz declined to comment yesterday because the case was "sub judice". Strictly speaking, of course, the Advertising Standards Authority is not a court of law but an admen's self-regulator.

The Heinz defence would probably be that tinned beans and spaghetti are now eaten less as cost-borne snacks and more like side vegetables with meat or as a component of stews.

Don't know whether it is being noted by the Swiss as working for the Americans that does it, but the Alfred Marks Bureau is having trouble with its English. The window of the staff agency's Baker Street office in London contains a notice saying: "3,500, American publishing co. to work for vice-president, Sec. PA; bilingual, knowledge of French and German." That could make the right person, though, in English, French and German—but "bilingual" means more than having "knowledge of" another language. Our guess is that the successful candidate will be bilingual in that he or she will be perfectly at home in both British English (BrE) and the boss's American English (AmE).

"Trident Television has had a most successful year"



Ward Thomas, CBE, OBE, Chairman, Trident Television Limited

REVENUE, PROFITS UP
"Trident has had a most successful year," states Mr G.E. Ward Thomas, Chairman of Trident Television Limited, in his Report for the year. "Television advertising revenue has been buoyant, moving up to second place among the ITV contractors. Our Australian enterprise has developed to the point at which we begin to see a return on our investment and our other interests have also substantially improved their profits."

Pre-tax profit for the year ended 30th September 1976 was £4.82 million (1975: £2.09 million) and net earnings per share increased to 6.1 pence (2.5 pence).

	Year ended 30th Sept. 1976	Year ended 30th Sept. 1975
Turnover	47,178	33,880
Profit before Taxation	4,825	2,092
Earnings per Share	8.1 pence	2.5 pence
Dividend per Share	2.3 pence	2.1 pence

A final dividend of 1.615 pence per share, together with the interim dividend already paid, makes a total dividend for the year of 2.322 pence per share (1975: 2.111 pence).

PROSPECTS
"We are currently forecasting a further increase in revenue and, despite increasing costs, we anticipate a further improvement in results both from television and from our other interests in the UK and overseas."

Mr Thomas commented that Trident continued to maintain its strong liquid position, and that the time was appropriate to utilise funds for further acquisition.

"All in all, I am confident that 1977 will be another year of successful growth for your Company," he added.

Annual Report available from: Trident House, Brooks Mews, W1Y 1LF

SIEMENS

Information for Siemens Shareholders

Sales continue firm

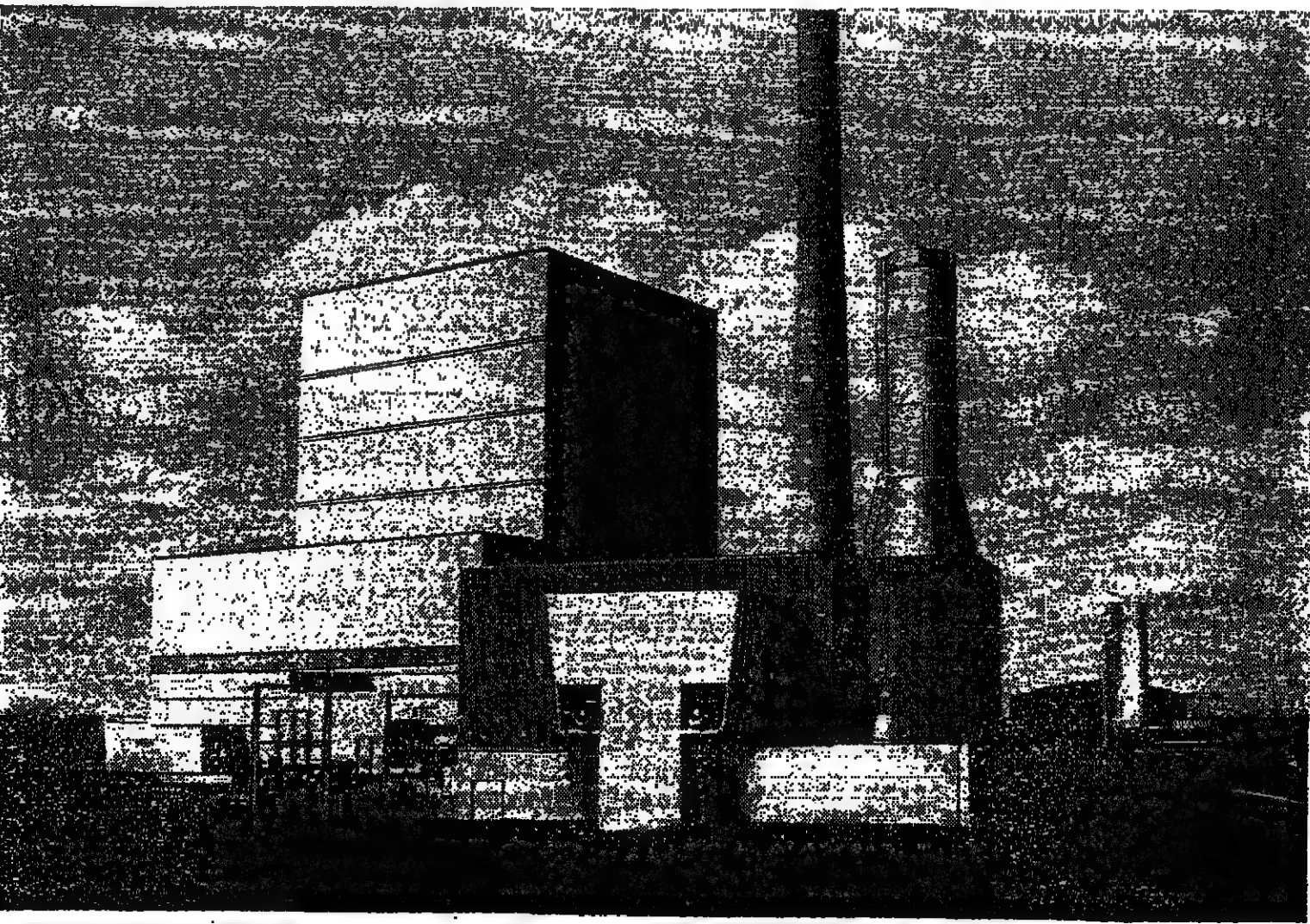
Although worldwide sales for the first quarter of our current financial year (from 1st October to 31st December 1976), achieved only modest 6% gains over the same period last year, a number of major contracts, concluded primarily with customers abroad, brought orders received to £ 1,650 million. This compares with £ 1,260 million a year ago. These contracts include a £ 100 million order from Nigeria for telephone switching centres, exchanges, and cable networks, and a £ 25 million order from Libya for local and STD telephone exchanges. Since it takes several years to execute major orders, it will be some time before they begin to influence plant capacity utilization. Total export orders increased to £ 550 million from £ 310 million a year ago. First quarter orders from the Federal Republic of Germany reached £ 730 million, exceeding by 11% the £ 640 million recorded last year. Despite a favourable first quarter, we anticipate only a slight gain in orders for the total 1976/77 financial year. Worldwide sales during the first three months of the current financial year reached £ 1,360 million, a 6% increase over last year's figure of £ 1,190 million. With an 8%

increase to £ 710 million (last year, £ 650 million), domestic business contributed somewhat more to this rise than did international business, which advanced 4% to £ 650 million (last year, £ 540 million). When figures are adjusted for cost-conditioned price trends, the real increase in total sales remains small. Comparable figures for the number of employees again showed a first quarter decline, falling 1.6% to 299,000. However, this tendency should moderate during the course of the 1976/77 financial year, provided that order receipts and sales continue to develop in line with expectations. First quarter employment costs were 6% higher this year than last, totalling £ 620 million as compared with £ 560 million. At £ 49 million, capital outlays for fixed assets during the first three months of the current financial year reached last year's first quarter levels. The preceding year saw an outlay of £ 23 million for the acquisition of further OSRAM shares, and £ 20 million for an increase in the capital of Kraftwerk Union AG. Rising costs had an adverse effect on earnings; as a result, the net margin receded from 2.8% last year to 2.5%.

	1st Quarter 75/76	1st Quarter 76/77	Comparable Change*
Orders received (in millions of £)			
Domestic operations	950	1,280	+ 29%
less export orders	310	550	+ 62%
Domestic business	640	730	+ 11%
International business	620	920	+ 32%
	1,260	1,650	+ 22%
Sales (in millions of £)			
Domestic operations	910	1,040	+ 8%
less export orders	260	330	+ 8%
Domestic business	650	710	+ 8%
International business	640	850	+ 4%
	1,190	1,360	+ 6%

	30/9/76	31/12/76	Comparable Change*
Order backlog (in millions of £)	4,390	4,780	+ 7%
Employees (in thousands)			
Domestic operations	208	203	- 2%
International operations	96	96	± 0%
	304	299	- 2%
Employment costs (in millions of £)	560	620	+ 6%
Capital expenditures and investments (in millions of £)	93	49	- 36%
Inventories (31st Dec.) in % of sales	36%	35%	
Net income (in millions of £) in % of sales	34	34	+ 1%
	2.8%	2.5%	

* Owing to the inclusion of OSRAM as of 1/1/76, all percentage changes stated on a comparative basis. All amounts translated at Frankfurt middle rate on 31st December 1976: £ 1 = DM 4.020.



Extended interest in powerstations and transformers

As of 1st January 1977 our interest in Kraftwerk Union AG, Muelheim, was increased from 50% to 100%, and our interest in Transformatoren Union AG, Stuttgart, from 50% to 75%. Both companies rank among the world

leaders in their respective fields - thermal power stations and transformers. Shown is the 720 MW coal-fired power station in Wilhelmshaven, completed by Kraftwerk Union in 1976.

Siemens AG In Great Britain: Siemens Ltd.

Europa Unions and government continue to clash over inflation controls

The struggle in Western Europe between governments determined to control inflation and unions determined that wages shall at least keep pace with the rising cost of living continues unabated in 1977.

There has already been a wave of one-day strikes and demonstrations in France against the Government's plan to peg increases to the cost of living. There was a wave of strikes by Dutch unions demanding that their wages should be pegged to the cost of living.

The Italian Government has failed to persuade the unions to accept any basic limitation on a cost-of-living sliding scale arrangement, though minor changes have been made to reduce its impact, but total labour costs will be reduced by working this year on seven public holidays and by shifting the burden of financing social security benefits from employers to indirect taxation.

In Britain, there has been no sliding scale arrangement since threshold increases ended in 1974, pay, under the second stage of the social contract between the Government and the unions, has not kept pace with rising prices but there is growing workshop opposition to a third year of restraint after the present one ends at the end of July.

Germany, better placed than the others, hopes that price increases this year will fall from 4 1/2 per cent to less than 4 but there has been some concern at initial wage settlements at 6.9 per cent.

The larger table shows how hourly rates of pay in manufacturing industry and consumers price increases have compared since 1970. It gives a general idea of the trends, though pay rates do not represent all a worker's earnings, still less all an employer's labour costs. Britain's figures, showing a 4 per cent increase between July and December last year, compared with an 11 per cent rise in prices only partially reflect percentage earnings rises under the new social contract. However earnings are now rising more slowly than prices, which are expected to continue a rapid upward movement for some months.

For the moment, wage increases appear to be under

control in Britain but Italy, where they can go up rapidly in the half of last year, has more scope in Italy than where, however, for non-wage labour costs are now proposing to do

An analysis of labour for manual workers, by the EEC a couple ago and based on 19 queries, gave the result centages as shown smaller table.

The fact that the st the major proportion security costs in Britain explains why total Kingdom labour costs steadily lower the where. The EEC sta worked out that in 1975, British labour co 3.10 Eur (common ac units), while they were France and 5.20 in G. The British system, of means that more has paid in taxation.

Eric W

ANALYSIS OF MANUAL LABOUR COSTS*

	Direct pay	Pay for days and bonuses not worked	Total pay	Social Security
Italy	60.30	9.50	69.80	27.82
France	62.06	8.17	70.22	25.63
Germany	69.26	10.63	79.89	17.78
UK	82.12	7.71	89.83	8.17

* Results in percentages

COMPARISON OF HOURLY RATES OF PAY

	Germany	France	Italy	UK	
1970 = 100	Wage rates	Wage rates	Wage rates	Wage rates	Hourly earnings
1972	123	111	124	112	113
1973	135	119	142	120	121
1974	131	127	169	138	131
1975	165	135	198	152	143
1976					
Jan	170	138	211	160	149
Feb				260	150
March				261	151
April	174	141	219	263	161
May				268	162
June				268	163
July	178	141	228	268	165
August				268	166
Sept				268	167
Oct			236	272	167
Nov				276	168
Dec				269	169
12 month increase per cent	6	4	15	10	9

Business appointments

Top executive changes on Chubb Alarms Group board

Mr D. N. Dring has been appointed chairman of Chubb Alarms Group. Mr K. M. Banks becomes managing director and Mr T. D. Ryan financial director.

Mr G. B. Jones has been named chairman of Unifit International. Mr N. J. Stapleton, previously corporate planning manager, succeeds Mr Jones as development director. SOCM Sincoc.

Mr Jim Tinline is to become director/general manager of the packaging interests of All Cooke.

Mr Stuart Speller has been appointed to the board of C. Rowbotham & Sons (Underwriting Agency).

Sir Monty Finlison has been named chairman of the board of Alexander Findlay & Co, Sears Holdings subsidiary after the retirement of Mr J. C. Gardiner.

Mr Joe Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, has become a member of

the National Research Development Corporation.

Mr Barry McKenzie has been appointed financial director and Mr Gordon Wood production director of World Distributors (Holdings). Mr John Lucken (Distribution) and Mr Campbell Goldsmid (product development and co-editions) become directors of World Distributors (Manchester).

Mr Robert Honeybourne becomes assistant to the chairman and managing director of International Chemical Company.

Miss Jane Anstey has been appointed to the board of Polecon, economic development consultants.

Mr P. J. Dunkley has been named managing director of Aerosols International, part of the health and chemicals division of Cadbury Schweppes.

Mr George Petrovich Kostylov, formerly head of the planning and economics department in the

Soviet Union's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is the managing director of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Safety Co.

Mr D. C. C. Roberts, elected president of the Renewable Institution.

Mr A. R. Phillips has elected a director of J. H. Co. United Kingdom no division.

Mr N. Conduemant appointed executive vice of Irel International.

Mr F. Guy Corbi be vice-president in Charge International Division in

Mr E. A. Carrington appointed a director of Winchester & Co.

Mr N. J. Keen and A. Mithan become assistants of European Company.

Mr H. N. Bowdler is no chairman of Allied Pet

JOINT COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

RAND SELECTION CORPORATION LIMITED (Both incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Further to the announcement dated 19th January 1977, the directors of Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited ("AAC") and Rand Selection Corporation Limited ("RSC") announce that agreement in principle has been reached on the merger of the two companies. RSC has also agreed to proceed with a rights offer to raise around R80 million to cover the redemption of its R30 million cumulative redeemable preference shares to repay its short term borrowings from AAC and provide for its envisaged commitments. Arrangements have been agreed in principle with De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited which is a major shareholder of RSC to underwrite the offer.

The rights offer will be so arranged that in the event of the merger being successful completed, AAC intends to make an offer to subscribers for RSC shares in terms which they will receive AAC fully paid ordinary shares in respect of their subscription in the same proportion as the merger terms which, subject to there being no major changes in market conditions, are envisaged as 200 AAC shares for every 100 RSC shares, but if the merger does not become effective subscribers will be allotted fully paid ordinary shares in RSC. It will of necessity take some time to comply with the necessary formalities in regard to the rights offer and merger proposals and although the provisional financial results of AAC for the year ended 31st December 1976 are now available and are being published along with this announcement, it is considered prudent in the interests of shareholders of both companies that the rights offer at merger terms should be determined nearer the time of posting the documents containing the firm proposals. The issue price for the rights offer will be related to market prices ruling at about that time. Before the rights offer can proceed, it will be necessary to authorise an increase in the capital of RSC and it is proposed to post notice on or about 3rd March 1977 calling a general meeting of RSC for this purpose to be held on or about 25th March 1977. Subject to the passing of the resolution to be submitted at the meeting, the record date for the rights offer is expected to be 1st April, 1977, and the terms of the rights offer will be announced shortly before that date.

The documents relating to the merger and the necessary increase in capital of AAC are expected to be posted on or about 31st March 1977 to members of RSC in AAC as the case may be. These will contain full particulars of the final merger proposals.

The holders of bonds representing the RSC US\$30 million 6 1/2 per cent convertible loan 1986 who lodge conversion notices on and after the day the terms of the rights offer are announced, which date is expected to be 30th March 1977, will not qualify for the rights offer in respect of shares issued arising from such conversions but the terms of any such conversions will be adjusted in accordance with the formula in the trust deed to take account of the rights offer.

It is proposed that in the event of the merger becoming effective bondholders will have the right to convert their bonds into AAC ordinary shares in place of RSC ordinary shares on the same basis as the merger terms. A notice to bondholders this connection will be published in the press on or about 30th March 1977.

Johannesburg
21st February 1977

London Office: 40 Holborn Viaduct
EC1P 1JF

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Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Provisional Annual Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December, 1976

and

Notice of Dividend No 81 on the Ordinary Shares

PROVISIONAL ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

The following are the unaudited results of the Corporation and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31st December, 1976, together with comparative figures for the year ended 31st December, 1975.

Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited		Anglo American Group Consolidated	
1976	1975	1976	1975
R000's	R000's	R000's	R000's
152	13 021	19 230	24 938
141	758	1 996	85
112	8 891	9 497	7 260
132	6 485	5 050	6 900
157	15 376	14 547	14 160
184	66 261	93 860	92 057
180	2 501	4 647	4 350
194	63 760	89 213	87 707
		2 940	2 993
		86 273	84 714
194	63 760	(33)	507
		33	(507)
		86 273	84 714
186	285	286	286
31	10 534	10 534	10 531
18	32 951	32 951	32 918
35	43 751	43 751	43 735
59	20 009	42 522	40 979
59	9	22 522	40 979
62	421	16 884	13 524
62	421	66	1 861
21	430	16 950	15 385
00	—	39 472	56 364
20	—	23 479	39 483
21	430	22	(3)
		13 501	39 480
		15 971	16 884

Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited		Anglo American Group Consolidated	
1976	1975	1976	1975
R000's	R000's	R000's	R000's
67	13 172	13 172	13 167
59	4 759	4 759	4 759
26	17 931	17 931	17 926
48	202	202	84 148
48	84 148	89 214	5 518
	84 350	89 416	89 666
48	—	8 380	8 381
48	84 350	81 036	81 285
121	207 934	367 098	344 970
195	310 211	466 065	444 181
128	60 038	60 038	60 128
112	272 686	63 876	63 564
400	21 833	287 050	399 250
129	45 512	54 088	63 474
164	710 280	931 117	1 030 597
326	89 232	411 009	353 857
327	160 100	(934 221)	(997 842)
459	112 612	114 674	164 968
341	(479 464)	(168 054)	(235 246)
390	11 856	13 863	12 042
498	(39 530)	290 351	256 364
438	261 658	101 220	243 166
424	74 722	931 117	1 030 597
064	710 280		

Group equity earnings per share
Dividends per share
Net asset value per share
(excluding excess of cost of shares in subsidiary companies over book value of net assets at the date of acquisition)

1976	1975
cents	cents
65.3	64.1
33.0	33.0
784.0	864.0

Extraordinary item—provision against investment in Zaire. As announced in the press on 23rd January 1976, the directors of Societe Miniere de Tenke-Fungurume (S.M.T.F.) advised that work at the S.M.T.F. project has been suspended. The decision to suspend was taken principally in the light of the disturbed political conditions in Central Africa, and the resulting economic situation in Zaire. These factors together with low copper prices precluded completion of the Zaire project. Your directors have therefore considered it prudent to make provision of £20 million for part of the investment in S.M.T.F. as an extraordinary item in the income statement. S.M.T.F. is currently considering the technical feasibility and methods of financing a project smaller than the previous 10,000 tonnes per annum scheme but it will be some time before definite conclusions can be reached.

For and on behalf of the Board:
H. F. Oppenheimer
G. W. H. Rely, Directors.

DIVIDEND

Final dividend of 25 cents per share (1975: 25 cents) for the year ended 31st December 1976 has been declared to shareholders registered in the books of the Corporation at the close of business on 11th March 1977, and to be presented by coupon No. 86 detached from share warrants to bearer. This dividend, together with the interim dividend of 25 cents per share declared on 23rd September 1976, makes a total of 50 cents per share for the year (1975: 50 cents). A statement regarding payment of dividends to shareholders will be published in the press by the London Secretary on or about 4th March 1977.

The transfer registers and registers of members will be closed from 12th to 25th March 1977, both days inclusive, and notices will be posted from the Johannesburg and the United Kingdom offices of the transfer secretaries on or about 14th March 1977. Registered shareholders paid from the United Kingdom will receive the United Kingdom currency equivalent on or about 14th March 1977 of the rand value of their dividends (less appropriate taxes). Any such shareholders may however elect to be paid in South African currency, provided that the request is received at the offices of the Corporation's transfer secretaries in Johannesburg or in the United Kingdom on or before 11th March 1977.

The effective rate of non-resident shareholders' tax is 13.4142 per cent.

The dividend is payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the head and London offices of the Corporation and at the offices of the Corporation's transfer secretaries Consolidated Share Registrars Limited, 62 Marshall Street, Johannesburg 2001, South Africa and Charter Consolidated Limited, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.

By order of the Board
J. T. Goldfinch
Managing Secretary

February 1977

on Office:
Johannesburg, 1A.

Head office:
44 Main Street,
Johannesburg 2001,
South Africa.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Hazlewoods reverse way out of a 'pickle'

In what is effectively a reverse takeover, bringing together a sauce, pickle and beer group, Hazlewoods (Proprietary), a public company, has agreed to merge with the privately owned Oset and Humber companies.

Hazlewoods, the Derby-based pickles and sauces firm which called a halt to Stock Exchange dealings last year, is issuing a big block of new shares to the private companies and giving them control of the combined group.

The Oset companies, which take in J. Lowe (Processed Foods) and the Beerroot Co (Yorkshire), claims to be one of the largest processors of beerroot in Western Europe, while Humber produces a wide range of pickles.

The directors of Hazlewoods strongly recommend their own shareholders to support the link-up. Hazlewoods, which turned in a loss of more than £200,000 for 1976-77, said that without loans totalling about £100,000 already made available by Oset and Humber, it "was unlikely that the company could continue to trade".

For the year to end-March, combined profits are forecast at at least £375,000.

Hazlewoods is now issuing 2.9m ordinary shares, of which 943,000 are to be placed by Laurence, Prust, and 726,000 deferred shares. The estimated placing price is 30p.

Briefly

FIRST TALKMAN

Listing of First Talkman Investment ordinary and warrants to subscribe for ordinary shares suspended a First Talkman's request, pending reorganisation particulars.

EMPEROR MINES

Listing of Emperor Mines temporarily suspended, pending lifting of suspension by Australian Exchange.

LATHAM-YORKSHIRE

Arbuthnot Latham Holdings has reduced its holding in Yorkshire and Lancashire Investment Trust by 10,000 shares to 981,515 shares (24.54 per cent).

JARVINE SECURITIES

In half-year to December 31, net profit, after tax and minorities, jumped by 50 per cent to \$15.6m (UK). Interest payment raised from 6.2 cents (adjusted) to 15 cents to reduce disparity. Board expects final of "at least" 27 cents, making 42 cents, compared with 31.8 cents (adjusted).

TELEFUSION

Telefusions, the Blackpool-based television rental and retail group, has bought television rental accounts valued at 21m Belgian francs (about £34,000) from Telefont SA, Belgium. The accounts are all in the Brussels area.

ENGLISH & SCOTS INV

Net revenue for year to January 31, £588,000 (£444,000). Earnings a share 2.5p (2.4p) and net asset value a share 81p (same).

Dividend is 3.38p (2.87p); scrip issue of 2.62 new "B" shares for every 100 "A" shares held is proposed.

BEST & MALLINSON

Chairman says in annual statement that he is reasonably optimistic. Results for 1977 will be "much better" than the £175,000 (against £560,000) made in 1976.

WIGGS & HILL

Board has acquired from receiver of Ernest Ireland, the pipe-work business with assets of about £300,000.

DRAYTON FAR EASTERN Revenue (after tax) of Drayton Far Eastern Trust rose from

£109,000 to £118,000. Gross dividend up from 1.15p to 1.23p.

APFC PROPERTIES

Rents receivable for half-year to Sept 30, £405,000 (£412,000). Pre-tax profit £208,000 (£190,000). Gross interim 1.84p again.

EMPIRE PLANTATIONS

Empire Plantations and Investments' profit dividends for year to March 31, 1976, will be paid on March 31 next. Board expects ordinary dividend for 1977-78 in the "foreseeable future".

NEWMAN-AGAR CROSS

Offers by Newman Industries for Agar Cross—already unconditional—closed. Shares not held by Newman will be acquired compulsorily.

ERNEST IRELAND

Following their appointment as receivers of the Ernest Ireland Group at the end of January, Mr T. R. Thom and Mr A. M. Bonman, of Price Waterhouse and Co have completed the sale of the business and goodwill of the three main contracting subsidiaries on a going concern basis.

OLIVER RIX

Chairman told annual meeting that current trading is "satisfactory". Company well on the way to a trading profit this year, assuming enough cars.

HERON CORPORATION

Scrip issue of nine ordinary shares and nine deferred shares for each ordinary and each deferred share, now held. Heron's ord and def privately held.

NEW YORK & SAINTONE

Gross income of New York and Saintone Investment Trust for 1976 declined from £218,000 to £198,000. Net loss, £11,000 against a profit of £42,000, after all charges. Total gross payment held at 0.46p.

JOHN MICHAEL

Chairman of John Michael (Saville Row) says company faces future with "modest optimism" and current year should bring a turnaround in group's affairs. As known, the board does not expect any loss for the year to January 31, 1977.

ST ANDREW TRUST

Gross revenue for 1976 up from £803,000 to £846,000. Total gross payment, raised from 5.0p to 5.62p. Net asset value of ordinary shares at year-end—1314p (1224p a year earlier).

ALCAN ALUMINIUM Board reports that as group since 1977 with most of its production facilities back in operation, it looks forward to improved operating efficiencies and the opportunity to earn a "far better" return on assets.

RENNIES' CONSOLIDATED Turnover of Rennies' Consolidated Holdings for 18 months to December 31 reached £194.5m, against £100.4m for previous 12 months. Pre-tax profit: £18.44m (£11.79m). Total payment for 18 months, 25.5 cents (20 cents). Rennies changed its year-end to align itself with its Hongkong-based parent, Jardine Matheson.

MEPCO'S FRANKFURT LISTING EBW, owned 65 per cent by MEPCO and 35 per cent by Fraser Securities, has let 9,000 sq metres in office development at Frankfurt, to AEG Telefunken. Development now 38 per cent let.

HAW FAR Brothers said in Singapore that Atlantic Assets had notified HP that it has sold its entire remaining 4.82 per cent stake in company—Reuters.

ACE MACHINERY (HOLDINGS) Provided the group's contracts for the Regional Water Authorities are not cancelled or deferred, ACE should show an improvement in the delivered sales for 1977-78. But this does not help the position for 1977-78, reports the chairman, Mr H. V. Gort, in his annual statement.

Management figures for the first quarter of the current year of Tace Ltd confirm the upward trend of profits and the board expects that the improved rate of profitability achieved in the second half of last year should be maintained in the current year.

BRITISH ELECTRIC TRACTION United Transport, a subsidiary of BET, has bought business and assets of West German group Schmidt, Ludwig and Osborn International Corporation companies from Sherwin-Williams of Cleveland, Ohio.

SINGLO HOLDINGS Dividend of 4.55 per cent preference shares on ordinary relating to year to March 31, 1975, will be paid on March 31 next.

**BOC—
the reality
is very
different**

We in BOC—and others like us in industry—are being criticised more strongly every day. Our detractors would have you believe that industry is all conflict; that we are vulgar and lack ideals; that we are manipulators of money and people; and, of course, that our workers are lazy; our managers inefficient and our directors concerned only with their own pockets.

The reality is very different. Last year we were able to provide 40,000 jobs around the world. We invested nearly £50 million in new plant and equipment. We put aside £40 million to pay Governments as tax. And we contributed £20 million to pension and welfare schemes. That was our contribution to the schools, hospitals, houses, roads and the decent standard of life which everybody is seeking.

We know we could do better. We know we make mistakes. We know it is not easy to bring together the interlocking interests of our customers, our employees and our capital providers. But as 40,000 free and individual men and women we try. And as free people, encouraged by a free society, we shall go on trying—unless our critics win.

BOC did well in 1976. How well you can see from the BOC International Report and Accounts for 1976. To obtain a copy, please fill in and send the coupon.

With over 100 companies in 43 countries, the BOC Group's activities include industrial gases; medical gases and equipment; welding and cutting equipment; vacuum and cryogenic plant and equipment; chemicals and metals; computer and off-shore services.

The 91st Annual Meeting of BOC International Ltd., will be held at the Confederation of British Industry, Council Chamber, 21 Tothill Street, London, S.W.1. on Wednesday 23 March 1977 at 11.30 a.m.

To: The Company Secretary, BOC International Ltd., Hamlyn House, London W6 9DX.
Please send: Annual Report and Accounts and/or BOC People's Report. (Delete as necessary)

Name

Address

BOC
International

Stock Exchange Prices

Prices marked down

Account Days: Dealings Began, Feb 14. Dealings End, Feb 25. § Contango Day, Feb 28. Settlement Day, March 8.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

ROLLS-ROYCE

Avoid the crowd

For serious, leisurely, contemplation and evaluation of the new

SILVER SHADOW II

COMETO J. D. BARCLAY OF OXFORD

Where personal and individual attention to all our customers' motoring requirements is still our only philosophy

J.D. BARCLAY LTD BARCLAY HOUSE, BANBURY ROAD OXFORD (0845) 59944

Rolls-Royce & Bentley Sales, Service, Spares and Repairs
All under one roof and Personal Supervision.



RTZ



1 Chester Close, Chester Street, London, S.W.1

WADHAM STRINGER

1975 (July) Rolls-Royce Corniche 2-door Saloon, structurally finished in Highland Green with matching green leather interior and console. Dark Green Everflex roof. 1 owner, with full service history, all usual extras. £21,500. (Guildford)

1976 (January) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow. Finished in Shell Grey with black hide, 1 owner, 9,000 miles. Supplied and serviced by us. £17,950. (Chichester)

1975 (April) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow. Finished in Walnut Brown, beige hide, black Everflex roof, one owner, with full service history. £16,750. (Guildford)

For further details apply to:

WADHAM STRINGER (GUILDFORD) LIMITED
Woodbridge Rd, Guildford, Tel. 59231

Or your local dealer

WADHAM STRINGER (CHICHESTER) LIMITED
South Street, Chichester, Tel. 81331

WADHAM STRINGER (PORTSEA) LIMITED
Castle Road, Portsmouth, Tel. 27261

WADHAM STRINGER (REIGATE) LIMITED
London Road, Reigate, Tel. 46881

WADHAM STRINGER (SOUTHAMPTON) LIMITED
The Avenue, Southampton, Tel. 28811

Mann Egerton

Rolls-Royce

A MEMBER OF THE INCHCAPE GROUP OF COMPANIES

DISTRIBUTORS

1975 (Feb.) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow four-door saloon. Silver green with tan upholstery. One owner from new. 23,000 miles. £15,950

1974 (Feb.) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow four-door saloon. Seychelles blue over Caribbean blue with dark blue upholstery. 40,000 miles. £13,750

1973 (Nov.) Rolls-Royce Corniche saloon. Seychelles blue over Caribbean blue with dark blue upholstery. Front head restraints. One owner from new. 15,000 miles only. £19,750

1973 (July) Rolls-Royce Phantom VI Limousine. Astrakhan with black everflex roof. Brown leather upholstery throughout. Radio telephone. Cock-cabin with independent refrigerator. Two titled owners. 24,000 miles. £26,850

1973 (Jan.) Rolls-Royce Corniche saloon. Aubergine with magenta upholstery. 32,000 miles. £17,950

1973 (Jan.) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow four-door saloon. Caribbean blue with dark blue upholstery. Speed hold. Stereo. One owner from new. 38,000 miles. £11,950

1972 (Dec.) Rolls-Royce Corniche convertible. Regal red with grey upholstery. Black hood. One owner from new. 38,000 miles. £16,850

1971 (Nov.) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow four-door saloon. Le Mans blue with beige upholstery. Dark blue everflex sliding roof. Stereo. Supplied by ourselves. £8,550

The Silver Shadow II is on display in our showrooms. 14 Berkeley Street, London, W1X 8AD. Tel. 01-499 8342.

SHOWROOM AT

14 Berkeley Street, London W1X 8AD. Tel. 01-499 8342

Service Works: 88 York Road, Kings Cross, London N1 9AG. Tel. 01-537 7772

24 Hour Answering Service on all Lines.

1971 (April) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow 4-door saloon. Dark blue with blue trim. Recorded mileage 51,000. £28,950

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